

Two-day deadline for union to lift Mercury blacking

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Trade union action aimed at blocking the Government's privatisation of state industry was declared unlawful yesterday by the Court of Appeal...



The Princess of Wales arriving at the Guards' Chapel in London yesterday, where a memorial to the 42 Welsh guardsmen killed in the Falklands conflict was dedicated...

Nine new 'stars' found by satellite

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

The discovery of nine mysterious objects which are baffling astronomers was announced yesterday by the Rutherford-Appleton laboratory at Chilton, Oxfordshire...

TOMORROW

Squeezing in The way to Oxford is being broadened. Robin Young looks at the efforts to make selection more fair...

FAN



Paying out The behind-the-scenes battle for the future of arts subsidy in Britain...

Earthquake panic hits Italy

An earthquake with its epicentre near Parma caused tremors and panic throughout northern Italy...

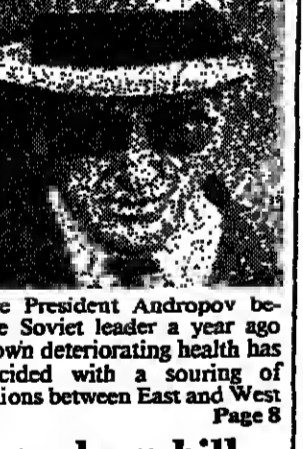
Heineken chief kidnapped

Mr Freddy Heineken, aged 60, head of the Heineken brewery, was kidnapped last night outside his Amsterdam offices by an armed gang...

Nurses protest

The Royal College of Nursing says health care will continue to deteriorate unless the Government revises its policy of cuts...

Détente sour



Since President Andropov became Soviet leader a year ago his own deteriorating health has coincided with a souring of relations between East and West...

Greenham bill

It has cost £1,520,000 to police the Greenham Common air base during the past year, Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State at the Home Office, told the Commons...

Japan visit

President Reagan, beginning his visit to Japan, has found that there are still wide differences between the two countries on trade...

Wilander out

Mats Wilander and Johan Kriek were unexpectedly beaten yesterday in the Benson & Hedges tennis tournament at Wembley...

Leader page 13

Letters: On business revival, from Sir Terence Beckett, and Mr M Dobson; armed intervention, from Dr M H Mendelson, and Mr A H McLuskey...

Table with 3 columns: News, Law report, Parliament, etc. listing various news items and their page numbers.

Scoon names his advisory council

From Trevor Fishlock, St George's, Grenada

Sir Paul Scoon, Governor-General of Grenada, and head of government, yesterday named nine people to help him run a non-political interim administration pending the holding of elections...

Million car tax offences unpunished

By Anthony Bevin, Political Correspondent

More than a million vehicles escape duty offences, discovered and reported by the police and traffic wardens, failed to result in prosecution last year, a parliamentary report revealed yesterday...

Americans pinpoint Syrian artillery

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

With Lebanon daily awaiting the "retaliation" America says it will take for the suicide bombing of its Marine headquarters in Beirut, a party of US Marines has made a secret trip into the mountains, high above the Lebanese capital...

Aspinall to gain £30m in casino coup

By Philip Robinson

Sir James Goldsmith, the financier, and Mr John Aspinall, the private zoo owner, are set to make staggering profits when Aspinall Holdings, their casino company, makes its stock market debut in Monday...

Sainsbury chief set to join NHS team

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr Roy Griffiths, deputy chairman and managing director of the Sainsbury supermarket group who led the recent inquiry into the management of the National Health Service, is expected to be appointed to the board which is to oversee the running of the service...

Mosley faced prosecution for sedition

By Peter Hennessy and David Walker

Home Office officials contemplated prosecuting Sir Oswald Mosley for sedition in 1937 if he attempted to regroup his fascist movement around the Duke of Windsor, who had recently abdicated, according to secret Home Office files that have now been declassified...

Israeli call-up exercise likely to raise tension

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Israel began a big call-up exercise yesterday involving tens of thousands of reservists, who were summoned to report to their units or rendezvous points by a series of code words broadcast over the radio...

Advertisement for South African Airways (SAA) featuring the slogan 'There's something new in the air!' and an image of a plane.

Advertisement for South African Airways (SAA) featuring the slogan 'Another first for SAA!' and an image of a lion.

Patients suffering under 'NHS blood-letting regime', nurses say

By Nicholas Timmins, Health Services Correspondent

Patients face a continuously deteriorating health service unless the Government reconsiders staff and cash cuts, the Royal College of Nursing said yesterday.

Eastbourne health authorities have said that the £750,000 secure units for the mentally ill, funded centrally by the Department of Health as priority projects, will not open next year unless they are allowed 50 staff each.

The closure of the Prince of Wales Hospital, in Tottenham, north London. Mr Clarke said that closure of the hospital would release £2m for services for the old, mentally ill and mentally handicapped, and allow in-patient services to be concentrated at the North Middlesex Hospital in Edmondston and out-patient services at St Ann's Hospital.

Oxford plans a shift away from hospitals

By Our Health Services Correspondent

Oxford Regional Health Authority is drawing up plans for a big shift in health care from hospitals to the community with far more day-care surgery and shorter admissions for maternity patients.

It would have to be found by cutting spending on acute services. "This is not a document about cuts," an authority official said yesterday. "It is about an imaginative way of looking at how we can cope with increases in demand while doing something about the cinderella services."

CPSA 'No' to Labour affiliation

Lower-paid civil servants have voted by a margin of two to one against affiliating their union to the Labour Party in a ballot that points to trouble ahead for Mr Neil Kinnock, the party leader.

In a 51 per cent poll, members of the Civil and Public Services Association (CPSA) voted 65,922 against affiliation and 312,479 in favour, a majority of just under 67.5 per cent against the political recommendation of the union's national executive.

THEY HAVE COMMITTED EVERY CRIME IN THE BOOK Yet the Cabinet cannot touch them



Former defence chief questions military value of cruise

By David Cross

Lord Carver, former Chief of the Defence Staff between 1973 and 1976, last night questioned the military value of cruise missiles, which are about to arrive in Britain.

maintained a balance in all types of warheads and delivery systems, the West would be subject to nuclear blackmail. "In some way or another we shall be forced to do or to accept unpleasant things, because the Soviet Union has a superiority in certain types of system," he said.

"It would be criminally irresponsible for any Western leader to initiate a nuclear strike on the assumption that the Soviet Union either would not answer back in kind or would do so to such a limited degree that we could regard it as acceptable within whatever were our war aims," he said.

Trident 'best bet for Britain'

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

If Britain were to cancel its plans to acquire the Trident cruise missile system it would amount to unilateral disarmament, according to Lord Carver, former Chief of the Defence Staff.

of cruise missiles as an alternative to Trident would not be a starter. Trident was now advanced to a stage where there was no alternative.

into the next century," Lord Lewin said. "What was missed by people like Dr David Owen, who suggested that Trident should be cancelled and Polaris run on, perhaps as a bargaining chip, was that Polaris was quite useless as a bargaining chip."

Telephone engineers reject new system

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

British Telecom's plans to modernize its telephone exchanges using the new micro-technology - System X - were thrown into serious doubt last night after the union conference of telephone engineers decided to block its introduction.

Welsh television audience slumps

The spectre of falling viewing audiences has cast a shadow over the first year celebrations of S4C, the Welsh language television channel, whose annual report and accounts were published yesterday.

In a nine-week period until last March, the end of the year covered by the accounts, the station had an average 115,000 viewers among Welsh speakers, equivalent to a UK audience of 14 million. But by October the audience had slumped to 53,000.

Move on Kincora scandal

The Government is moving towards holding a further inquiry into the homosexual scandal at the Kincora boys' home in Belfast (Richard Ford writes).

An inquiry by Sir George Terry, former Chief Constable of Sussex, cleared the Royal Ulster Constabulary of a cover-up. But Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, has been under pressure from Ulster politicians for a full public judicial inquiry.

Split in cocaine bag killed man

A man who swallowed a plastic bag containing cocaine after police arrested him on suspicion of driving while unfit through drink or drugs died of cocaine poisoning when the bag split in his stomach, an inquest at Westminster was told yesterday.

A missive verdict was returned on Timothy Lloyd Davies, aged 28, unemployed of Canfield Gardens, West Hampstead, London.

Talks today on extending miners' overtime ban

By Our Labour Editor

Miners' leaders met today at the end of the second week of a national overtime ban to decide their next move in the face of intensifying pressure from the National Coal Board for a secret pithead ballot.

from within the union for a ballot. Mr de la Motte, Midlands area president of the National Union of Mineworkers, is quoted in the latest edition of the board's journal Coal News as saying: "If the board are really saying there is no more money forthcoming, the national executive should make the decision to consult the men by ballot."

Success claimed in peace blockade

By Pat Healy

Greenham Women Against Cruise claimed last night that traffic in and out of RAF Wethersfield, Essex, was halted by 300 protesters taking part in the 24-hour vigil outside 102 American military installations in Britain.



Nodding acquaintance: Lord Tony Pandy (left), the former Speaker, with Mr Bob Paisley, the former Liverpool football manager, in London yesterday after a 'men of the year' lunch held to raise money for disabled children and adults (Photograph: Tony Weaver).

Daily Express censured over march report

The Daily Express is censured by the Press Council today for a serious lapse from journalistic standards in a report about unemployed marchers.

It upholds a complaint by the People's March for Jobs '83 that the newspaper published an inaccurate story and editorial reflecting on the march and its offer of a brief letter for publication did not fully correct the report.

Murder victim's car found

A missing red Jaguar car belonging to the victim of what detectives call a "professional execution" was found in east London yesterday.

Mr Lloyd Simpson, aged 26, a waste-paper dealer, was shot probably on Saturday at his flat in Shaftesbury Court, Shore-ditch. Mr Simpson's father, who found his body on Monday, said yesterday: "Unless it is proved to me I won't believe he was involved in gangland."

Duffy raises hopes of union merger

By Our Labour Correspondent

Renewed attempts are to be made to forge an amalgamation between the engineers' and electricians' unions, which would create a union of almost 1.5 million members and a powerful voice of moderation inside the TUC and Labour Party.

Liberals given £250,000 to fight European poll

By Patricia Clough

The Liberal Party will be given by the British Government £250,000 by the European Parliament's Liberal group for its campaign in next year's European elections, it was announced in London yesterday.

Crash ferry's 'safety door' left open

Loss of life on a Townsend Thoresen ferry which sank killing six people could have been "astronomical" because it kept open its watertight safety doors making it "unseaworthy", a public inquiry was told.

The accusation came from Mr John Willmer, representing Sealink, owners of the Speedlink Vanguard which was in collision with the Townsend Thoresen's European Gateway off Harwich last December. Four crew and two passengers died.

Ministers get a lecture

By Peter Heames

Sir Douglas Wass, Permanent Secretary to the Treasury until Easter, had a message in his first BBC Reith lecture on Radio 4 last night for ministers who will engage in battle at today's Cabinet discussion on public spending.

Blast toll rises

A seventh victim has died after the week-end explosion at a house in Gravesend, Kent, whose basement housed a workshop making shoes.

Kulvinder Singh, aged 24, suffered severe burns. The Daily Express reported that Jobcentres offers of jobs had been rejected by 74 unemployed marchers the day before the march. The editorial contrasted the few who had reached Lancashire with the thousands of hunger marchers in the 1930s.

Land record

A new UK farmland price record was set yesterday when five acres of land at Friston Shore, in south Lincolnshire, sold for an average price of £6,500 an acre.

Legal battle on Dimbleby papers nears decision

The legal dispute between Mr David Dimbleby, the broad-caster, and the National Union of Journalists (NUJ) is expected to be decided tomorrow.

Mr Dimbleby is seeking a High Court injunction against the union to stop it supporting 14 journalists formerly employed by his Richmond and Ipswich Times group of newspapers. The hearing has lasted two days so far; a decision has been delayed while the court considered the relevance to the case of yesterday's Court of Appeal ruling that the Post Office Engineering Union cannot order its British Telecom members to block Mercury, the private telecommunications company. The Dimbleby newspapers appear to have been unaffected by the loss of most of their writing staff. It is believed that three non-union journalists are still working, and strikers say that extra people have been brought in. The finished product is being distributed from Nottingham by Bailey Forman, a non-union company that has been printing the newspaper since last month. It was the transfer of printing from Richmond to Nottingham, with the dismissal of the

Richmond printing workers, that led to the backing by the journalists. Mr Dimbleby has claimed that the NUJ threatened his journalists with expulsion from the union should they defy an official strike instruction. That was described yesterday as rubbish by Mr Bob Norris, an NUJ organizer. He said: "All that members of the chapel office branch were told is what could happen to them, not what would happen."

The members have been told that if they went against an official strike instruction complaints could be laid against them. If they were found guilty the penalties would vary according to the circumstances of the individual case. Hundreds of party workers picketed the Warrington works of the Stockport Messenger yesterday in the latest step in a long-running closed-shop dispute.

Home as t... early

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Rape stud... criticizes... the polic...

Nuclear

Alfonsín pledges to seek peaceful solution to Falklands dispute

From Douglas Tweedale, Buenos Aires

Señor Raul Alfonsín, who will become Argentina's first civilian President for nearly eight years when he takes office on December 10, has said that his government "will use all the diplomatic means at our disposal to achieve a peaceful solution to the sovereignty dispute between Argentina and the United Kingdom".

In his first public statement on the Falklands issue since he won a surprisingly comfortable victory in the elections 10 days ago, Señor Alfonsín said: "We are convinced that negotiations between the two countries under the good offices of the Secretary-General of the United Nations are the appropriate way to solve this dispute in a just and permanent fashion."

He added that such discussions would have to be "within the framework of the pertinent UN resolutions, and specifically Resolution 37/9 of the General Assembly". Señor Alfonsín did not mention the possibility of signing a formal

Algerian leader thaws out French

From Roger Beardwood

President Bendjedid Chadli of Algeria will fly home today after an official visit to France that has done much to reduce the bitterness left by French colonial rule and the struggle for independence, which ended two decades ago.

The visit, the first by an Algerian head of state, started with starchy protocol on Monday, when Mr Chadli and his entourage were welcomed at Orly airport by President Mitterrand, M Pierre Mauroy, the Prime Minister, and members of the government.

The growing warmth of the two Presidents' feelings for each other soon turned the visit into a personal triumph for both of them.

The thaw became obvious on Tuesday, when Mr Chadli attended a reception at the Hotel Inter-Continental, near the Place de la Concorde, for 1,500 members of the Algerian community - workers, doctors, lawyers, artists, entertainers, bankers and businessmen.

At first, formality prevailed, as Mr Chadli and M Mitterrand welcomed guests and complimented each other's countries. Then M Mitterrand said: "Mr President, I want to meet your fellow countrymen."

After a moment, though that time was not in the script, Mr Chadli answered: "Of course, of course. They're waiting for us."

Flanked by security men, the two presidents went to a balcony overlooking the ballroom and the crowd below greeted them with loud applause. Mr Chadli spoke first, in Arabic. The burden of his speech was the past is past, so let us now build the future.

M Mitterrand replied: "We reject racism and intolerance. France remains hospitable. As brothers, we can speak freely to each other, observe each other's laws, habits and morals,



Symbol of friendship: President Chadli of Algeria (centre) after laying a wreath yesterday at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Paris.

Zimbabwe accused of raid into Botswana

From Michael Hornsby

A Botswana Defence Force unit has clashed with a Zimbabwean raiding party which apparently crossed into Botswana in pursuit of "dissidents", the term used by the Zimbabwean Government for insurgents in the western province of Matabeleland.

According to Major-General Mompoti Merafhe, the commander of the BDF, the incident occurred at about 7 am on Tuesday near Maitengwe after a BDF patrol found footprints crossing from Zimbabwe into Botswana.

The patrol followed the footprints for about two and a half miles into Botswana until it came under rifle-grenade and mortar-shell fire from a contingent of about 30 soldiers of the Zimbabwe National Army. The BDF said that its men returned the fire but had to withdraw when the Zimbabweans called in two helicopters. There were no casualties.

Early last month, a group of Zimbabwe soldiers were accused by Botswana of assaulting the headman of Buzale's Village and of interrogating villagers about the whereabouts of "dissidents". The Zimbabweans denied responsibility for the incident.

Botswana maintains that it does not harbour Zimbabwean "dissidents" and provides shelter only to civilian refugees from the Matabeleland fighting.

Mr Merafhe categorically denied that his forces had clashed with troops of a neighbour in the Southern African Development Coordination Conference and a fellow member of the Commonwealth (Stephen Taylor writes).

A statement by the Ministry of Defence said that in the past week "sizeable gangs" of anti-government guerrillas had tried to infiltrate Zimbabwe using Botswana as a springboard. It added: "Recent action by Zimbabwe units crushed these attempts. Those dissidents not killed returned to Botswana."



Alfonsín's new faces: Señor Caputo, Foreign Minister (left), Grinspun, Economy, and Tróccoli, Interior.

Argentina pushes for diplomatic victory

From Zoriana Pysariwsky, New York

Last-minute lobbying by Britain and Argentina was under way yesterday as the United Nations General Assembly prepared to debate the Falklands dispute. Argentina was again certain to win diplomatically what it had lost on the battlefield.

Its position, which calls for resumption of negotiations with Britain on sovereignty over the islands, was expected to be further strengthened by the election of a new Argentine Government apparently free from military shackles. Last year to the assembly Argentina

secured a 90-12 majority with 52 abstentions.

Britain hoped at best to prevent erosion of support for its stand. Abstentions are regarded as tacit approval for Britain's contention that Argentina should not be rewarded for having resorted to force last year.

Argentina has been working hard for the European votes, which in political terms should automatically go to Britain, but which last year went into the abstentions.

Britain's lobbying strategy has been to reinforce the view that the newly-elected Argentine

Government should not be sent an erroneous signal by the assembly.

British diplomats have emphasized not only the paramount importance of self-determination but also that its overtures to Argentina on normalization of relations have been spurned.

It was, nevertheless, thought to be an uphill struggle for Britain.

The United States was again thought likely to vote in favour of negotiations on sovereignty, which Britain claims is an Argentine strategem for talks with a predetermined outcome.

UN fears more US invasions

From Our Correspondent

Mexico said on Tuesday that a unilateral attempt was under way to impose a solution in Central America with the growing number of military bases, and covert action against Nicaragua. It implied that the pretext and principles used to justify intervention in Grenada could be invoked in Central America.

The United States responded by again raising questions about the legitimacy of the Sandinista leadership in Nicaragua. Mrs Jeane Kirkpatrick, the US representative, said Nicaragua was only a "pawn in a larger game" and its stance was a mixture of "bravado and paranoia" designed to justify greater internal control.

Setback for Shagari

By Kenneth Mackenzie

The Nigerian Senate has refused to approve six of 35 proposed ministers submitted by President Shehu Shagari.

This is regarded as a serious setback for the President, who was re-elected for a second four-year term five weeks ago and was planning a major reorganization of the executive. Only seven of the old ministers were proposed for reappointment.

All 35 were cross-examined by a committee of 13 in a week's televised sessions.

The President is expected to resubmit some of the names. In the meantime he will allocate portfolios to the 29 who have passed the scrutiny.

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Crisis in Lebanon

Israel welcomes PLO strife and prospect of Syrian control

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

The Israeli Government is delighted at the plight of Mr Yassir Arafat in the Palestinian civil war and the prospect that he will be replaced by a Palestinian Liberation Organization leadership under the dominion of Syria.

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At the ready: An Arafat supporter keeping a sharp watch in Tripoli.



At the ready: An Arafat supporter keeping a sharp watch in Tripoli.

Another reason is speculation about whether Mr Arafat will somehow extricate himself and retain his influence. His return to prominence after his expulsion from Jordan and from Beirut are cited in this report.

reaffirmed their support for the self-determination of the Palestinian people "with all that this implies" (Mario Modiano writes).

Spain's hard left boycotts job talks

Negotiations between Spain's Socialist Government and the trade unions on restructuring the country's crisis-ridden industry went ahead yesterday for the second day without the influential Communist-run workers' commissions.

Arms Bill passed by Senate

The Senate has approved a \$253,000m (£168,000m) defence spending Bill for the fiscal year 1984, giving President Reagan money for virtually all the big weapons programmes he wanted.

Thatcher on the world stage: Cold winds in America, warm front in Germany

Change of tune puzzles Washington pundits

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

A question increasingly being heard around Washington is what Mrs Thatcher up to. American officials, some puzzled, others angry, are trying to deduce why the Prime Minister has suddenly changed roles from being the Reagan Administration's most reliable ally to one of its most outspoken critics.

Russia pressed to persist in Geneva negotiations

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

The best Christmas present President Yuri Andropov could give the West would be dismantling the Soviet SS20 missiles and accepting the zero option. Mrs Thatcher told a press conference yesterday at the end of her consultations here with Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

was especially important because of the deployment issue. Mrs Thatcher also underlined the urgency of finding a solution to the financing of the European Community.

Grantham's German twin revels in its big day

From Our Own Correspondent, Bonn

Grantham is mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086, and received a Royal Charter in 1463. St Augustin was invented as a town in 1969 and was formally empowered with city rights in 1977.

Former CIA agent jailed for 25 years

New York (AP) - Edward Wilson, the former Central Intelligence Agency agent already serving time in jail for selling explosives to Libya, was sentenced yesterday to 25 years for trying to murder two US federal prosecutors, a business associate and five government witnesses.

Gunmen murder Peru mayor

Lima (AP) - Left-wing guerrillas assassinated a government party mayor in central Peru amid reports of stepped-up insurgency aimed at disrupting Sunday's nationwide municipal elections.

Police chief sentenced

Langano (Reuters) - Gualtieri Medici, a Swiss police chief, was given a suspended three-month prison sentence for carrying out economic espionage for Italy last year.

Flynt ejected

Mr Larry Flynt, who was removed from the Supreme Court in Washington after he had interrupted a hearing of a libel case brought against his magazine Hustler by rival publication Penthouse.

Sausage scandal

Mainz (Reuters) - Six meat wholesalers and a veterinarian, accused of unloading kangaroo, mule, horse, donkey and antelope meat on unsuspecting consumers, went on trial here in West Germany's biggest meat fraud case.

Priest shot

Guatemala City (AFP) - Father Augusto Ramirez Monasterio, aged 40, the superior at a Franciscan monastery, was "sadistically" murdered here.

Blow to Palme

Stockholm - Sweden's Socialist Government suffered a serious blow when Mr Ove Rainer, a personal friend of Mr Olof Palme, the Prime Minister, was forced to resign as Minister of Justice after being accused of massive tax evasion by the evening newspaper Aftonbladet.

Refugees raped

Jakarta (AFP) - Eighty Vietnamese refugees who arrived in Indonesia packed on board a 40ft boat were attacked by Thai pirates during their week-long journey and the women raped, a refugee official said here.

Savings eaten

Nairobi (AP) - A cotton farmer who had saved 2,000 Kenyan shillings (about £100) to pay for his wedding lost all when white ants ate through the banknotes which he had buried for safe keeping.

Cuba and Grenada 'lost 231 troops in invasion'

Four times as many Cuban and Grenadian troops may have been killed during last month's American-led invasion of Grenada than the Reagan administration has so far admitted.

How Soon sought help

Sixteen days after troops landed in Grenada, the precise timing and nature of the invitation to intervene from Sir Paul Scoon, the Governor-General, to the United States and six Caribbean nations remain hazy.



Wanted baby: Thirty people immediately offered help when a Miami hospital appealed for a foster home for this 14-month-old girl suffering from the fatal disease AIDS.

Cousteau braves storm

Paris (Reuters) - Jacques-Yves Cousteau, the ecologist-explorer, said yesterday that his revolutionary wind-powered catamaran had exceeded all expectations on its maiden transatlantic voyage.

Women and blacks win in US polls

Blacks and women did well in a series of gubernatorial and mayoral elections which were held across the US on Tuesday.

Mr Goode's success in Philadelphia means that three of the four largest US cities now have black mayors.

How Soon sought help

Sixteen days after troops landed in Grenada, the precise timing and nature of the invitation to intervene from Sir Paul Scoon, the Governor-General, to the United States and six Caribbean nations remain hazy.

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TO ALL HOUSE OF FRASER SHAREHOLDERS

FROM LORD DUNCAN-SANDYS C. H. AND R. W. ROWLAND,
DIRECTORS OF HOUSE OF FRASER

Certain misleading statements have been made by House of Fraser concerning the £100 million refurbishment contract awarded by House of Fraser (Stores) Ltd. to Allied International Designers Ltd. (AID). Particularly it has been stated that Lonrho had no objection to the store refurbishment plan.

To correct any misunderstanding the position on the AID's contract is as follows:-

1. The refurbishment programme was presented to the House of Fraser Board on 24th December 1982 as part of its defence of the Lonrho proposals for the demerger of Harrods.
2. The Lonrho directors on the Board of House of Fraser naturally said that they were not against the principle of refurbishment as this was a normal expense in the nature of retailing. However, concerning this particular exercise, we were deeply concerned about:-
 - a) The marketing and merchandise strategy allied to this refurbishment which had not been presented to or approved by the Board.
 - b) The financial feasibility justifying the expenditure of over £100 million which had not been considered or approved by the Board.
 - c) The initial indications which showed that many of the stores to be up-graded at considerable expense continued to show a less than ten per cent return even after expenditure.
3. Since December 1982 no consideration has been given by the Board to these crucial outstanding matters. In fact, the Board has not discussed or reviewed the contract with the firm of retail consultants, Management Horizons, nor has it seen any of their detailed reports on particular stores. Further, the contract with AID has not been seen by the Board, indeed our request to have sight of the contract has been formally declined.
4. Concerning the points of detail, it is our understanding that:-
 - a) The contract with AID is for a term of two years not five years.
 - b) The expenditure proposal of £100 million covered the refurbishment of 82 stores (excluding Harrods) and not the 50 stores indicated in press statements. No assessment has been given to the Board on the medium or long term commercial viability of any of these stores.
 - c) The capital commitments approved by the Board do not include the £100 million refurbishment programme.

We wish to make clear that in our opinion House of Fraser management must first satisfy the Board of the long term individual store viability and further, demonstrate a successful merchandising and retailing philosophy before we can endorse any capital commitment of £100 million of shareholders' resources.

9th November 1983

Former CIA agent jailed for 25 years
New York (AP) - A judge said he is disappointed and angry at the former intelligence agency...
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Reagan relaxes in a well-policed Tokyo

Trade tensions trouble US-Japan alliance

From David Watts Tokyo

President Reagan began his visit to Japan yesterday with tension in East Asia higher than at any time since the Korean War.

The shooting down of the Korean airliner and the massacre of Korean Cabinet ministers in Rangoon have combined to give impetus to the US and Japanese leaders' desire for a tighter alliance, with Japan taking greater responsibility for regional security.

The tension in the Korean peninsula was reflected in strict security in Tokyo yesterday, with about 90,000 police and riot police deployed to discourage protests.

In the event, the Japanese capital was the quietest it has ever been for a presidential visit; the student riots of the 1960s protesting against the Japan-US security treaty are a thing of the past, and yesterday's protests were confined to carefully controlled meetings by about 4,500 radicals of the left and right. Nevertheless, 800 police were guarding the Reagans in Akasaka Palace last night.

The Japan that President Reagan will see is more prosperous and pro-American than could have been imagined even five years ago. The Communist Party decided not to oppose his visit, but that does not mean the presidential party will go away with all that it hopes for.

The tone of the visit is very reflective of President Reagan's personality: warm and non-specific. But then the White House is careful to point out



West meets East: Mr and Mrs Reagan with Emperor Hirohito at an official ceremony in Tokyo.

that the aim of the four-day stay is to give impetus to the negotiations already going on over trade, the yen-dollar relationship and global security.

That there are still widely differing viewpoints on trade was clear after yesterday's talks, when the Japanese reiterated their view that the yen's weakness is largely due to high American interest rates while Washington maintains it is due to Tokyo's failure to liberalize its capital market.

The two sides, however, intended to announce the

establishment of a working group to examine the yen-dollar relationship, which the Americans hold is the cause of the US trade deficit with Japan which could reach at least \$20bn (£13 bn) this year.

Beyond that there remain the perennial tensions over Japan's inability to liberalize imports of American beef and citrus fruits, which the White House said last night must be resolved by March, a deadline which may have as much to do with American presidential campaigning

On security, one of the principal subjects for discussion, there is likely to be a good deal more agreement. The Japanese have already sought to sweeten the atmosphere by initiating the agreement to share advanced defence technology with the United States.

It is clear though, that the Japanese do not intend that the agreement will empty the whole cornucopia of defence technology for the benefit of the United States, and Japan itself will decide which items will be available to the Americans, who

are believed to be interested in Japanese anti-radar paint and laser technology.

● **SEOUL:** Riot police used their tear gas to disperse about 700 students demonstrating on a Seoul campus against President Reagan's visit to South Korea which starts Saturday (Reuter reports).

Students pelted the police with stones and wielded iron bars in clashes lasting more than two hours on the campus of the Confucius Sungyunkwao University.

China not budging on Hongkong's deadline

From David Bonavia Peking

China has restated that it wants agreement with Britain on the future of Hongkong by September next year. The same position was taken by Mr Wu Xueqian, the Foreign Minister, during his visit to Canada several weeks ago, and is quite familiar to British diplomats.

The statement was reiterated by the Foreign Ministry spokesman at his routine Wednesday briefing in answer to a question China's position is that the two countries should reach general agreement on Hongkong's future by September next year or Peking will announce its own plans for the territory.

This does not affect China's known policy of recovering sovereignty over Hongkong in 1997. The Chinese Government has already disclosed its plans for a semi-autonomous Hongkong with a capitalist economy.

● **HONGKONG:** The authorities here have welcomed the appointment of Mr Richard Evans as British Ambassador to Peking in succession to Sir Percy Cradock (Richard Hughes writes).

Mr Evans, aged 57, former Deputy Under-Secretary of State (Economics) at the Foreign Office, is not well-known to the public here, but government leaders, diplomats and China-watchers in Hongkong are well aware of his record, which includes two terms of service in Peking.

Détente goes sour

Foreign policy runs out of steam

A year ago today President Brezhnev died. Richard Owen, Moscow Correspondent, in this first of two articles, reports on how Brezhnev's successor has dealt with the issue of the intermediate-range nuclear weapons.

Even before President Andropov fell ill and disappeared from public view, diplomats in Moscow were expressing doubts about his arms policy.

"Andropov has lost", one remarked, with no great pleasure. It must be gratifying to see the strength of anti-nuclear feeling in Europe, and Grenada is a rallying point for anti-Americanism; but the hard fact is that cruise and Pershing missiles are being wheeled into place, which is what Andropov has been trying to prevent.

Since coming to power a year ago, succeeding Brezhnev in a swift and decisive move,

ing handy anti-American ammunition.

This turn for the worse began with the Korean airliner crisis and with Mr Reagan's relentless attacks on Soviet brutality. Even before he fell seriously ill Mr Andropov seemed to have written off all hope of a meeting of minds with Mr Reagan regardless of whether or not he runs and wins next year in the presidential election.

The Soviet leader was especially incensed by Mr Reagan's apparent desire to "roll back" communism and his implied refusal to accept the legitimacy of the Soviet regime.

In this atmosphere, with no sign of agreement at the Geneva talks, cruise and Pershing have, in the Kremlin's eyes, become symbols of American power and intransigence.

Pershing 2 missiles arouse particular anxiety among the generals, since that can reach Russia in 8 to 12 minutes, leaving no time for a considered reaction (and the Kremlin is only too well aware that under pressure, Far Eastern defences bungled the airliner incident).

It may be that Mr Andropov - or, in his continued absence, Politburo colleagues - will propose a compromise at the eleventh hour.

Soviet attention is focused on the crucial missile debate in the West German parliament in two weeks. But the eleventh hour is ticking away fast and there is no sign that Nato accepts Mr Andropov's claim that SS20 missiles (140 of them under his last proposal) should be balanced against the British and French deterrents.

The Politburo is constrained not only by "Soviet national interests", but also by the military, which does not like missile concessions.

Soviet generals are understandably reluctant to accept blame, either for the airliner crisis or for the original decision to move SS20s into Europe in the mid 1970s, precipitating Nato's twin-track decision and the present crisis.

If Mr Andropov can recover sufficiently to resume full command of Soviet policy - recovering his original decisiveness and direction at the same time - there may be movement forward.

In his last statement he said Nato missile deployment would make continuation of "the present talks" impossible - a formula which combines the threat of a walkout at Geneva with the hint of other talks next year.

But that is a slim hope to set against the chances of a crisis in the Kremlin coming after a year in which East-West exchanges of invective have been so acrid and self-righteous that a Kremlin-White House dialogue looks more remote than ever.

There has been lack of movement in other areas of Soviet policy, including China and Afghanistan. But in its relations with Washington - the heart of the matter - Moscow has moved from impasse to the offensive, with Grenada and Lebanon provid-

ing a year in which East-West exchanges of invective have been so acrid and self-righteous that a Kremlin-White House dialogue looks more remote than ever.

Tomorrow: Internal affairs



Mr Andropov has become increasingly preoccupied with the intermediate-range missile issue.

His initial foreign policy initiatives first left the West floundering, then ran out of steam. Mr Andropov's unprecedented absence from the Red Square parade this week has cast doubt on his ability to govern.

But he first disappeared nearly three months ago, only occasionally firing off bitter statements on US and arms control.

On coming to power Mr Andropov vowed to make détente the policy of the future as well as the past. As recently as August he was receiving American visitors and talking of a possible summit with President Reagan (provided the terms were right).

But the deterioration in the Soviet leader's health has coincided with a souring of the East-West atmosphere. And there is no longer any talk of summits.

Soviet rhetoric against Mr Reagan has become vicious, depicting him as a simple-minded gangster with Nazi-like dreams of world destruction.

There has been lack of movement in other areas of Soviet policy, including China and Afghanistan. But in its relations with Washington - the heart of the matter - Moscow has moved from impasse to the offensive, with Grenada and Lebanon provid-

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Corruption in Poland

Ex-TV chief's lifestyle exposed to court

From Roger Boyes Warsaw

Disclosures of corruption at the very top of the Polish establishment came thick and fast in a Warsaw courtroom yesterday as state prosecutors outlined their case against the flamboyant former chief of national television.

On trial is Maciej Szczepanski who, as chairman of the radio and television organization under the disgraced party leader, Mr Edward Gierek, helped create the so-called "Propaganda of Success" that portrayed on television screens a fictional Poland in which production records were regularly and suspiciously broken and in which party leaders were hailed as wise, infallible tribunes of the people. Mr Szczepanski used his powerful position to create for himself a lifestyle more akin to the Ottoman Empire than communist Poland.

According to various accounts, he regularly used helicopters to travel to appointments, made free use of a yacht owned technically by Polish Television, entertained potential clients with risqué video films and call girls, built splendid villas and ski chalets.

Arrested on charges of economic mismanagement and corruption in 1980 after Solidarity pressure for a clean-up campaign, Mr Szczepanski has been on trial for months.

The prosecution case is now being summed up, defence speeches will be allowed and, according to court sources, a verdict should be returned in the next few weeks.

The prosecution this week is presenting detailed lists of Mr Szczepanski's alleged crimes



Mr Szczepanski: Helicopters to appointments.

which disclose a vast scope of corruption in high places. Mr Szczepanski, the prosecutor says, took 1m zloties (£7,000 or equivalent to six months' average pay) from the social welfare fund of television, spent 200,000 zloties himself gave more than 200,000 zloties to friends and acquaintances and passed on a further 400,000 zloties in bribes to high officials.

The money bought expensive gifts that were regularly given to ministers and party leaders on their birthdays (or wives' birthdays) on saints days and on any convenient pretext.

Mr Szczepanski, who during the early stages of his trial would stand up, interrupt the judge and laugh out loud at the attempts of his defence counsel, now sits rather subdued in Courtroom 246. Few people bother to attend for tales of extravagance and bribes no longer shock the Poles. His audience nowadays consists of bored lawyers and old-age pensioners sheltering from the cold.

Filipino dissident freed

Manila (AP) - Mr Sixto Carlos, a Filipino dissident leader who was allegedly tortured after his arrest by soldiers in 1979, has been freed by President Marcos in response to appeals from Mr Carlos's wife. A Defence Ministry an-

ouncement said that the President ordered his release "in line with the government policy of unity and reconciliation." He was the first important political prisoner released by the Government in recent years.

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The Times

Law Report November 10 1983 Court of Appeal

Union unlikely to establish 'trade dispute' defence in Mercury case

Mercury Communications Ltd v Stanley and Another

Before Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice May and Lord Justice Dillon

[Judgment delivered November 9]

Although there was a dispute between British Telecommunications (BT) and its employees it was most unlikely that the Post Office Engineering Union would be able to establish that there was at any material time a trade dispute between BT and its employees.

The Court of Appeal in reserved judgments allowed an appeal by Mercury Communications Ltd from Mr Justice Mervyn Davies's refusal on October 21 (The Times, October 22) to grant interlocutory injunctions restraining the Post Office Engineering Union and its members from, inter alia, inducing or procuring another to induce or procure a breach of the contractual relations between Mercury and British Telecommunications so as to cause loss, harm or damage to Mercury.

Orders were made requiring the union within 48 hours to rescind all resolutions of its executive council not to cooperate with Mercury.

Costs were ordered to be paid by the union. The court also ordered the union to pay the costs of the appeal.

Section 13(1) of the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act 1974, as amended, provides: "An act done by a person in contemplation or furtherance of a trade dispute shall not be actionable on the ground only (a) that it induces another person to break a contract or interferes or induces any other person to interfere with its performance; or (b) that it consists in his threatening that a contract... will be broken or its performance interfered with, or that he will induce another person to break a contract or to interfere with its performance."

"Trade dispute" is defined by section 29(1) of the 1974 Act as amended by section 18(1) of the Employment Act 1982 as meaning "a dispute between workers and their employer which relates wholly or mainly to" one of seven specified matters including "termination... of employment".

Mr Robert Alexander, QC, Mr Patrick Elias and Mr T R Charlton for Mercury; Mr Christopher Carr, QC, and Miss Cherie Booth for the union.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the appeal was important and urgent. It was the first occasion upon which the court had been called on to consider the changes made in the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act 1974 by the Employment Act 1982.

In such disputes, which gave rise to strong, indeed passionate feelings on each side, the courts had an independent role, akin to that of a referee. Parliament made the law and was solely responsible for what the law was.

The duty of the courts was simply to apply the law as they understood it. Mr Justice Mervyn Davies had approached his task upon that basis and the court would do the same.

For many years the Post Office had enjoyed a monopoly in the telecommunications systems within the United Kingdom. In 1981 Parliament passed the Telecommunications Act which established BT, transferred the telecommunications business of the Post Office to it and empowered the secretary of state to license rival telecommunications systems.

That met with strong disapproval from the union and many of its members. The vast majority of whom were employed by BT. It was probably also unwelcome to the management of BT.

On February 22, 1982, the secretary of state issued a licence authorizing Mercury to establish a telecommunications system within the United Kingdom on the terms of the licence. The process of licensing competitors of BT was known in the industry as "liberalization".

In contrast, the process of altering the nationalized status of BT by converting it into a public limited company and issuing its shares to the public was known as "privatization".

The machinery for liberalization existed in the Telecommunications Act 1981. That for privatization was contained in the Telecommunications Bill now before Parliament.

The operation of the Mercury system required a degree of interconnection with the BT system. It also required connection with the "interface" of the international system, the United Kingdom interface being at present part of the BT system.

The union was opposed to liberalization in general and the grant of a licence to Mercury and the setting up of the Mercury communications system in particular. It was also opposed to privatization. It had pursued its opposition by argument and by industrial action.

In March 1982 the union's national executive committee resolved to instruct its membership not to connect Mercury to the BT system.

BT management by themselves made some interconnections. The union then instructed its members to "black" Mercury shareholders and BT services at Mercury's own premises.

The writ in the present proceedings was issued on October 5, 1983. What the judge and the court had to decide was what orders, if any, should be made pending the trial of the action. It appeared that the parties to the dispute were such a dispute, did it relate wholly or mainly to "termination... of employment" within section 29(1) of the 1974 Act?

His Lordship did not understand how the authorities mentioned by the judge enabled him to jump from a finding that the dispute was as to whether BT installations should be

made available to Mercury to a finding that it was a dispute which related wholly or mainly to termination of employment.

Hadmor Productions v Hamilton (1983) AC 191 and Health Computing Ltd v Meek (1981) ICR 24 did not assist in deciding to what any particular dispute wholly or mainly related. N.W.L. Ltd v Woods (1979) 1 WLR 1294 was decided under the old law where the test was "in connection with".

Thinking that the judge misdirected himself, the question was whether on the more extensive evidence which was available, the dispute between the union and its members and BT was likely to be held to be a trade dispute.

The instructions given by Parliament as expressed by the words used in the statute had to be followed: see Dupont Steels Ltd v Sirs (1980) 1 WLR 142, 153.

The starting point must be the meaning of the phrase "wholly or mainly relating to" which directed attention to what the dispute was about, or if it was about more than one matter, what it was mainly about. It did not direct attention to the reason why the parties were in dispute about the matter.

In the context of an admittedly restrictive amendment to the statute, his Lordship inclined to the view that Parliament intended a relatively restrictive meaning to be given to the phrase; the words "wholly or mainly" themselves indicated and provided a degree of restriction.

His Lordship found it impossible to conclude on the evidence at present available that the risk to

jobs was a major factor in what the dispute was about.

If the dispute was wholly or mainly about jobs it was inconceivable that the union would not have approached BT asking for a guarantee of job security or a strengthening of the job security agreement.

On the other hand, there was massive evidence that the union was waging a campaign against the political decisions to liberalize the industry and to privatize BT.

His Lordship's conclusion on the evidence was that it was most unlikely that the union would be able to establish that there was at any material time a trade dispute between BT and its employees.

Lord Justice May, concurring, said that two issues arose on the defence. Was there at the material time a relevant trade dispute? Were the acts of the union taken in contemplation or furtherance of the trade dispute? That question did not arise if there was no trade dispute.

For the reasons given his Lordship thought that it was highly unlikely that the section 13 defence would prevail when the action was a different complexion.

As to whether the court should substitute its own view on the discretion to grant interlocutory relief, see the speech of Lord Diplock in Hadmor Productions Ltd v Hamilton at p220. Having concluded that the judge misdirected himself and that the additional evidence produced had been highly relevant to the issues of

fact which he had to determine, it seemed that the court was bound to exercise its discretion afresh.

Mercury had shown that there was a serious question to be tried and that it had a real prospect of succeeding in its claim for a permanent injunction at the trial. If Mercury succeeded it would not be adequately compensated by damages whereas if the union succeeded it would be adequately compensated by an award under the cross-undertaking. The balance of convenience lay in protecting Mercury pending the trial of the action.

The appeal should be allowed.

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Career catalysts

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also in this week's issue: - Toby Weaver on why Robins had to be rejected - Tim Champion on the 'new' Archaeology

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SPECTRUM

The plain man's guide to God

The Times Profile

Dr John Habgood, Archbishop of York

The Archbishop of York, Dr John Habgood, though not enthroned until later this month, presides over the General Synod of the Church of England this week for the first time, giving that body its first chance to see how well he wears his new mantle. The Archbishop of Canterbury is away celebrating Martin Luther's 500th anniversary in Germany, so for some of the week the junior of the two primates is in sole charge.

Fortunately for him, the principal duty is just to be there as a court of appeal on technical points of procedure. On Tuesday he had the pleasure of announcing his position in the new pecking order: "York, Number Two". Like privates in the army, every synod member has to give name and number before he can speak; and Dr Habgood likes to take part in debate, not just watch it happen.

It is a position that no doubt appeals to him, for the new Archbishop has the most logical and sharpest of minds, proved once by means of a first class science degree at Cambridge, and proved again every time he speaks in public. He is a case of "once a scientist always a scientist", for in matters even of faith or church order Dr Habgood's invariable starting point is factual, and his method to assemble the facts in orderly order. From that his conclusions follow: he is therefore a difficult man to argue with. Other people's looser points can be impatiently swept aside.

It was this quality, sometimes mistaken for intellectual arrogance, which gave him a reputation for coldness when he first became Bishop of Durham from an obscure academic post in the Midlands. Even before this summer's announcement of his appointment to York, however, he had started to learn how to relax in public, and his appointment also seems to have helped. But there is a natural shyness in his manner still, and appearing on television does not come naturally to him.

His contribution to the Church of England will lie elsewhere: in his scientific background and the mental approach that gives him. It is typical of him that when he was preparing for a new book on the church in society (*Church and Nation in a Secular Age*, Dalton, Longman and Todd £5.95) it was not theology but sociology that he turned to, and in a characteristic Habgood phrase "a realistic appraisal of the facts" he summed up where, for him, all argument has to start.

The sociological approach is not one the Church of England is terribly keen on in general. It is as if its relationship to society required a certain degree of myth and mystery, and too much probing might loosen the cement. Habgood has no such inhibitions and while holding a high view of the church's significance for the nation, he has no time for ecclesiastical pretensions.

The Church of England's position as the national church sometimes gives rise to an attitude of smug spiritual superiority, which the new Archbishop

of York both admits and roundly deplores. One feels he means it for one feels he truly does not need it for himself.

This pragmatic and sociological approach to the church is both a benefit and a danger, and there is some reason to suspect that he is not sufficiently aware of the latter. The advantage is that the Church of England does badly need some assistance from the facts in rediscovering its role in society. It is futile for it to pursue policies based on the hope, for example, that spiritual revival is just round the next corner, if only church leaders would "get their acts together", if that expectation is sheer fantasy. There are Anglicans who feel the way; but Habgood will be no comfort to them.

The new prayer book still under attack

The facts — perhaps more obvious outside the church than within — are that church attendance is only one of many dimensions of spirituality and religion in contemporary secular and pluralist society. A sensible church, wanting to justify its existence and strengthen its role, will acknowledge this. It will acknowledge it more with good Dr Habgood's assistance.

The danger is that some aspects of the church's life may not survive too much rational definition. Some sense of myth and mystery, in the hard light of day apparently unnecessary, may be important constituents of national religiosity.

Dr Habgood was closely involved in simplifying Anglican worship which resulted in the *Alternative Service Book*; and in the *Covenant for Unity with the Free Churches*, which ran aground when a substantial minority in the Church of England felt threatened. In neither case was the irrational element in human nature, which seems close to the religious, given due weight. The new prayer book is still under vigorous attack; and the failure of the unity scheme has put a question mark over the whole ecumenical enterprise. He bears some responsibility for these two, less than ideal, outcomes: it is quite likely that being so rational a person himself, he failed to give due weight to the sentiments and prejudices of others less rational.

Dr Habgood is still only 56, with at least 10 years of leadership to give to the church, and he is still manifestly thinking hard, still analysing, speculating and learning. He may yet have another gift to bring to Anglicanism, in addition to the capacity to make it face a sociological fact. The church badly needs his scientific mind to lead it towards a better adjustment to science itself, and to lead secular opinions to a better understanding of the relationship between science and religion.

Since science became the dominant ethos of the age, the criterion by which all claims to truth are judged, popular



JOHN STAPYLTON HABGOOD
born June 23 1927 educated Eton, King's Cambridge, Cuddesdon College, Oxford

1950-53 Demonstrator in Pharmacology, Cambridge
1952-55 Fellow of King's College, Cambridge
1954-56 Curate of St Mary Abbots, Kensington
1956-62 Vice Principal Westcott House, Cambridge
1962-67 Rector of St John's Church, Jedburgh
1967-73 Principal Queen's College, Birmingham
1975-83 Bishop of Durham
1983- Archbishop of York

sentiment has been that science somehow disproves of religion. Many of the leading minds in the church, no matter how educated in church history, Hebrew or classics, are at a loss when faced with this eclipse of faith. Now the Church of England has a scientist at the very top, it may begin to find its feet in this crucial area. The General Synod has never yet debated science and religion, but it now has the ideal man to preside over a debate.

Dr Habgood is one of several leading churchmen in the Church of England whose entry into personal religious experience was through the Evangelical door.

At university he was attracted by the intense commitment of students he knew with the Christian Union type of piety, having previously thought himself an atheist. He would now, however, more properly be classified as a "middle Anglican", one equally balanced between High and Low, with

"liberal" sympathies, and some "catholic" overtones.

It enables him to sympathize with all sections of opinion, but it does not make for a very clear personal image. There is even the characteristic Anglican "wooliness" in Dr Habgood at all the appropriate places, such as a refusal to say what the Church of England really stands for except in terms so general as to be platitudinous.

He is a man of many and diverse ecclesiastical interests, a follower of no church party (though on the "high" side in background), yet he stands out from his fellow bishops — about whom there is a certain "sameness" — perhaps because that is what Eton taught him to do. It is a nice coincidence that both he and the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, are married to professional pianists, though it is said they have never played together. At least if Dr Runcie retires in time to give Dr Habgood an innings at

Canterbury (the age difference is six years in the latter's favour) the Lambeth Palace pianos will be in-tune.

In touch with movements in world theology

As Bishop of Durham ("Durham, Number Four") Dr Habgood was beginning to assume the role of an odd-job man. He represents the Church of England on both the British Council of Churches and the World Council of Churches, he took charge of the new prayer book revision process, he served on the unity covenant supervising body, and he chaired an international commission which looked at the problems of nuclear energy and nuclear war.

Earlier this year he went with a party of British churchmen to the Vatican, and seems particularly to have enjoyed a long talk with Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, head of the Sacred Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (formerly the Holy Office).

He said afterwards he thought he saw something in the Roman Catholic mentality with which an Anglican did not feel at home. Certainly the new Archbishop of York is not an enthusiast for dogma, and has said that faith is more present in the interpretation of experience than in any written formulae. But this is not narrow-mindedness on his part; it seems he is well in touch with movements in world theology, and asked recently to name the most influential living theologian, named the German Jesuit Karl Rahner. Most churchmen asked such a question would say who had influenced them most: typically, with Dr Habgood, it was a question requiring an objective answer, regardless of his personal opinion of Rahner's work. Like a true scientist, but unlike many churchmen, he distinguishes between what is the case and what he might wish it to be.

Although a man holding such an attitude is bound to be criticized sooner or later, both for lacking a sense of vision and for doctrinal weakness, there is actually a powerful case for believing that church teaching is far more dependent on sociology than theology, though few theologians would admit such dependence. As he points out in his latest book, the factors affecting church attendance seem to have far more to do with changing social conditions than the state of health and current politics pursued by the churches.

He also points out the complex relationship between contemporary social mores and the morality taught by the church, an observation which is realistic but damaging to the illusions of many churchmen. The church must have its moral standards, he argues, but never forget that they can never be the last word. And for him this is just as true of doctrine. It is not surprising that one observer once described hearing a speech by Dr Habgood as like taking a cold bath, of that another said he had "a mind like a razor."

The latter remark was qualified, however, with "... and a heart of gold." There is an air of good humour about Dr Habgood and a lack of pomposity, that indicates a rounded personality which might otherwise be intimidating.

Clifford Longley
Religious Affairs Correspondent

moreover...
Miles Kingston

Night at the opera

"I am relatively new to London and recently attended the opera in Covent Garden for the first time. I was appalled and repelled by the unfriendliness of the audience 'masquerading,' apparently, as reverence for art. Any time someone moved an arm or shifted discreetly in one of the uncomfortable seats he was treated to an outpouring of mutters, expletives and glares."

So writes a reader called Pola Henrid to the *Standard* this week. She is a professional musician, the letter goes on to say, and thought that music was meant to be fun, and stimulation of the heart and intellect. What room is there for either among the "morning, tut-tutting and self-congratulation"?

Oh dear. It's always sad to witness a person discovering for the first time that going to the opera is not about music; it's about going to the opera. Opera-goers have many reasons for their attendance, but musical enjoyment is not high on the list. One might as well go to a rugby match to enjoy imagination, invention and improvisation, or go to Bradford to enjoy a day by the sea. But in case any readers are thinking seriously about taking up opera-going, I would like to provide a check-list of possible valid motives. If you can tick three or more boxes, then opera is for you. If you can tick all boxes, then a box at the opera is for you.

□ Muttering and moaning, or intellectual superiority. There's a wonderful feeling involved in knowing more about an opera than the person next to you. If your neighbour says *sotto voce*, "Which character has just come in and why is he carrying a knife?", start moaning. Frank Muir once said he went to the National Film Theatre to see a Marx Brothers film and laughed out loud after three minutes. A man behind said, "Sssh!" That man should have been at Covent Garden.

□ Picnicking. Many people enjoy opera because it gives them the chance to pack up little hampers, or take along bottles of something exquisite. (Wine buffs are quite often opera-lovers). For them, Glyndebourne is the greatest place on earth — opera in a picnic spot.

□ A quasi-religious experience. Lots of people who have lost their faith tend to find comfort in opera: if they have lost their faith badly, they usually go for Wagner.

□ Dressing up. This is self-explanatory.

□ Seeing and being seen. So is this.

□ Spotting team changes. Just as football fans are interested in seeing if McFlurry will slot in United's midfield after McSurly has been sold to City, so many opera fans will go along just to see how Sodastream tackles the role of Kristina to which Krasnikova brought such conviction, even if she wasn't quite reliable after F sharp.

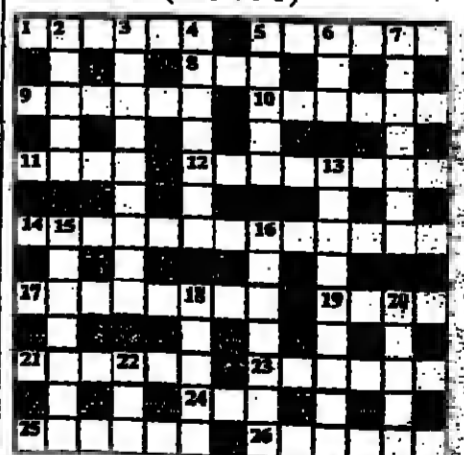
□ Enjoying staring through tiny binoculars. This isn't perhaps worth a whole box to itself, so you should also include enjoying queuing at bars, enjoying queuing at cloakrooms and enjoying staring at audiences.

Musical enjoyment can certainly not be ruled out, though I am not sure it is worth its own box. I have always been struck by the fact that of the opera-goers I know, only one actually plays an instrument. The others are all on hearsay terms with music. I wouldn't go so far as to say that opera is music for people who do not like music, but I am disposed to agree with H. L. Meocken: "All the first-rate musicians who have trifled in the opera-house have been killed by Wagner and Richard Strauss..." An opera may have plenty of good music in it and fail, but if it has a good enough show it will succeed.

"Greater than Wagner," he goes on, warming to his subject, "lacking his touch of the quack, have failed where he succeeded — Beethoven, Schubert, Brahms, Bach, Handel, Haydn. Not one of them produced a genuinely successful opera: most of them didn't even try. Imagine Brahms writing for the diamond horseshoer Or Bach or Haydn! Beethoven attempted it, but made a mess of it. *Fidelio* survives today chiefly as a set of concert overtures. Schubert wrote more actual music every morning between 10 o'clock and lunch-time than the average opera composer produces in 250 years, and yet he always came a cropper in the opera-house."

Any letters received from furious opera-lovers will gladly be forwarded to Mr Mencken.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 198)



ACROSS
1 Illuminates (6)
5 Mutter (6)
8 Golf ball support (3)
9 Carrer (6)
10 Vegetation-stripping insect (6)
11 Butter and eggs plant (8)
14 Health warrior (13)
17 Swollen part (8)
19 Brittle (4)
21 Fungal wood decay (3,3)
23 Prickly plant (6)
24 Flower garland (3)
25 Austere (6)
26 Actors' walk-off (6)

DOWN
2 Coldly (5)
3 Vined vessel (9)
4 Draw out (7)
5 Australian soprano (5)
6 Raincoat (3)
7 Milan Opera house (2,5)
8 Journey section (4,5)
12 Churchyard conifer (3,4)
13 Nightgown (7)
15 Carpet fibre (5)
18 Anglo-Saxon aristocrat (5)
22 Regret (3)

SOLUTION TO No 197
ACROSS: 1 Sequel 4 Civics 7 Meat 8 Voicebox
9 Side road 12 And 15 Broach 16 Coward
17 Dzo 19 Lab-did-dah 24 Ammonite 25 Chim
26 Rimeoz 27 Satrap
DOWN: 1 Sump 2 Quasimodo 3 Lever 4 Skirt
5 Vado 6 Crown 10 Excel 11 Doozi 12 Alabaster
13 Dado 14 Ibis 18 Zombi 20 Aive 21 Dress
22 Zomo 23 Grip

Final part in our series on the television of tomorrow

The brave new world of media mediocrity

Is the future of television one of bountiful excellence or will it be barren? Are we witnessing the release of the magic energy and creativity of private capital or the beginning of a cultural strip-mining which will leave the land bare? Will cable link us to a future of boundless wealth or a grubby little development of importance to no man?

No one knows, not the accountants, not the businessmen, not the pundits. Yet one can hear the crescendo of a campaign to persuade us that it will work, that we really will want this future of cable, satellite and video. If you don't believe it, it won't happen: such is the nature of the market.

Its nature is one of boundless movement with no real direction. Listening to the entrepreneurs of the media future, I am reminded of Woody Allen: "I've got an idea. Now I'm looking for some cash to turn it into a concept." As for the government-inspired public debate, I am reminded of the American Supreme Court Justice, Oliver Wendell Holmes, who when asked for his train ticket, began to fumble, looking increasingly perplexed. Recognizing the fabled Justice, the inspector said: "That's OK sir, you can pay for the ticket later."

Rounding on him, Holmes observed: "Young man, I am not looking for my ticket to demonstrate that I have paid, I need it to find out where I am going." Despite all the market research and various reports into the new media, we do not really know where we are going.

Underlying the many government statements is a conviction that the new media can co-exist with the existing media like neighbours living in detached houses. But cable, satellite and video cannot become more widespread without seriously eating into the share of the audience held by the BBC and ITV, thereby destabilizing the system.

The Government may have embarked on its new technology policies with the best of intentions, but it has still not adequately considered what the cultural implications of those policies will be. The only social research it has shown any interest in funding has been that which will allow it to sell the idea of the new technologies to a so far reluctant population.

The idea that there is need for little or no regulation of the new media rests upon the assumption that the BBC and ITV can be sheltered from potentially hostile forces. That is nonsense. It would have been more honest of the Government to say that in the long term there was no longer a place for public service broadcasting, for a system regulated to some social as opposed to commercial purpose.

There is no such thing as deregulation. There is regulation by organizations with a public purpose and those with a private purpose. We have as one part of our television system ITV companies which possess both but which, because they have been governed by a public authority, have produced programmes — dramas, documentaries, current affairs —

which they otherwise would not have.

My own view is that the social benefits of the moguls of the BBC and ITV, working within the framework of the public service idea, will always be greater than those which follow from the narrow materialism of accountants with responsibility only to shareholders.

It is not that anyone is against TV producers making money — indeed that is necessary if they are to address their public function. The price of *Weekend World* is *Game for a Laugh*. The same logic should apply to the new media: the price of premium film channels should be that they fund and encourage productions made in Britain reflecting British concerns.

There is an ambivalence in government thinking on the need to censor the output of cable stations. The White Paper on cable published in April implies that there will be fairly rigid censorship in terms of "standards of taste and decency", yet it goes on to say that it may be possible for cable stations to show the type of material which would not be available on a BBC or IBA channel. However, "so-called 'adult channels' have no place on the sort of cable systems which the Government wishes to see develop."

Films with a high level of explicit sex will clearly be dented around on every film channel, not into one or two, because cable television will have a voracious appetite and will use up films by the score, including a substantial proportion of X-certified films. Widening consumer choice inevitably means the

Government encouraging material which they dislike.

By the beginning of the next decade, whichever government is in power, there will be an urgent need to examine broadcasting in the light of new technologies.

Much will depend upon the role which the new cable authority takes for itself, which will include responsibility for direct broadcast satellites. If the authority decides to force cable operators to invest money in quality domestic productions, then we may be able to look to the future with a certain optimism.

If however the authority, as this Government intends, does not push and cajole operators, then the future is bleak. We may have a wondrous technology of optical fibre cable, satellite and large high-definition screens, but it will deliver programmes bled white of ideas, or character, or range.

This Government, in its experiments in the new media, will have prepared the ground for a cultural and moral dust bowl.

Michael Tracey
The author is head of the independent Broadcasting Research Unit at the British Film Institute.

TRANSAMERICA AIRLINES
Our article of October 14 about diamond smuggling in Angola stated that Transamerica Airlines, a subsidiary of Transamerica Corporation, had links with the CIA. Transamerica asks us to point out, and we accept, that it is not, and has never been, linked with the CIA.



WE ALL REMEMBER 23 MAY 1982

NONE OF US SHOULD FORGET 13 NOV. 1983

The sinking of HMS *Antelope* was just one of the incidents which led to loss of life in the Falklands Campaign.

During the conflict 253 British Servicemen were killed. Many more were injured for life.

It's our duty at The Royal British Legion to help the dependants and survivors in time of need.

Add to those the dependants and veterans of every other conflict the UK has

been involved in, from both World Wars up to the Northern Ireland situation, and we're talking about hundreds of thousands of people.

That's why, this year, we're asking you to give as much as you can for your poppy.

Don't forget, many people were prepared to give their lives.

THE POPPY APPEAL

REMEMBRANCE DAY 1983. SUNDAY 13TH NOVEMBER

هكذا من الأصل

BOOKS

Woodrow Wyatt reviews Lord Bullock's biography of Bevin Colossus of the Cold War

Ernest Bevin Foreign Secretary, 1945-1951 By Alan Bullock (Heinemann, £30)

After reading Lord Bullock's splendidly sculptured massive survey, it is hard not to believe that Ernest Bevin was Britain's greatest Foreign Secretary.

It was these very words, Britain held about 30 per cent of the world's wealth. The US today holds about 50 per cent.

Bevin had nothing to give, not so much as a ton of coal as he often lamented. At Potsdam he felt Britain was a good third to Russia and America but the ground was slipping fast.

It had to be done by diplomacy, and though Bevin was no one's conventional idea of a diplomat, he was a superb one.

Bevin's three supreme achievements were the conversion of the Marshall offer to the Marshall Plan, the Berlin airlift, and NATO.



Bevin on his return from Moscow, April 1947

Washington didn't bother to send, as they could have, an advance copy of the speech to London.

Marshall wanted Russia and Eastern Europe included and Britain as a recipient, not a distributor of aid.

In March 1948 the Russians began the attempt to force the Western Allies out of Berlin by progressively cutting off supplies.

John Maynard Keynes Vols 1: Hopes Betrayed, 1883-1920 By Robert Skidelsky (Macmillan, £14.95)

Some of my friends are ex-Marxists, and they retain, despite their repudiation of the doctrine, the imprint of his mind.

The history of the Keynesian revolution is largely a story of Keynes's escape from the quantity theory of money.

His elitism led Keynes as an economist to believe in the discretion of elites, of Platonic guardians of the public interest.

Skidelsky's book is clearly destined to be the modern life of Keynes, replacing the earlier life by Roy Harrod as a personal biography, though Harrod will always be read for his economic understanding, superior to that of Skidelsky, and his personal

William Rees-Mogg reviews Skidelsky's biography of Keynes Confessions of a justified monetarist



Gentle master of the Keynesian revolution

least of women; it repudiated a personal liability to obey general rules. But it was the elitism and the rejection of rules which mattered, though the homosexuality reinforced them.

monetary regulation (though Bretton Woods was less than perfect in its Keynesian logic). Skidelsky is an admirer of Keynes, but what he shows is that Keynes's economic theories reflected his early acquired philosophical beliefs.

Fiction

The alchemy of the novelist at work

Where are you dying tonight? By Michel Deon (Hamish Hamilton, £9.95)

The Lost Flying Boat By Alan Sillitoe (Granada, £8.95)

A young Balkan peasant appears inexplicably one day in a class of younger boys in a reputable Parisian lycée.

Both meo make excellent progress and are set up in a publishing business by Garrett père, meanwhile the erstwhile peasant becomes the lover of Aodré's maternal aunt, some 13 years his senior.

publishing house achieves modest fortune and general esteem. Where are you dying tonight? is the reconstruction of André Garrett's son of Beren's life and work.

The subtle relationship of the two different titles unfolds in the course of the rest of the story. It is a wry, often very funny, study of an artist "never happy outside his own skin".

Alan Sillitoe's The Lost Flying Boat is an admirable adventure story, so that too much revelation of the plot would be an annoyance.

Extending Tale by Charles Johnson (Blond & Briggs, £8.95) is a powerful novel with vivid, pulsating characters which might have been much more moving than it already is.

This allows Charles Johnson to indulge himself in all manner of outlandish metaphysical games, philosophical conundrums, paroxysms of word, event, and idea.

The Corsican by William Hefner (Granada, £8.95) is a would-be blockbuster covering several generations of human stupidity, savagery, viciousness and greed perpetrated in the name of some opoosial and eminently dispensable honour.

Crime

Exotic and erotic.

Flamingo By John Gardner (Hodder & Stoughton, £8.95)

Ikou By Graham Masterton (W. H. Allen, £8.95)

There is a sub-order of the thriller, itself a branch only of crime fiction, not bitherto, I believe, clearly identified, which is perhaps best labelled "the farrago".

Gardner's Flamingo is set in Shanghai in the 1930s, tells of the adventures at guopoi and amid bedsteads of Harry Byrd, American with British roots.

Masterton's Ikou is not far behind. Here we set out from the Arizona Biltmore Hotel, "designed in the mid-1920s by Frank Lloyd Wright, outrageously modern, a Jazz-Age resort for America's rich and notorious."

detective story ought to be. Cruciverbalists forward!

Monsieur Pamplonisme, by Michael Bond (Hodder & Stoughton, £7.95). "Paddington" Bond turns to crime with gastronomic French sleuth plus gastronomic dog.

Something Wicked, by Elizabeth Ferrars (Collins, £6.75). A village mystery, standard you might think. But it's memorably set in a freezing winter (Abbit omen!) and you feel the very cold penetrating.

H. R. F. Keating

In her own right

Clara Schumann By Joan Chissell (Hamish Hamilton, £15)

The reasons for the fascination of Clara Schumann as a musical figure are manifold but are perhaps misunderstood. It is easy to regard her simply as a wife and a mother of eight, who chanced to touch the lives of the great musicians of the day.

Miss Chissell tells succinctly the appalling tale of Clara's feud

with her father over her marriage to Schumann and Wilek's attempts to blacken Schumann's character, and conjures with clarity and sympathy her reactions to Schumann's encroaching madness. She relates comprehensively the story of Clara's full life after Schumann's death: the pickling up of her concert career, the editing on behalf of her husband, her teaching, her relationship with Brahms and the correspondence and fruitful criticism that passed between them.

Geoffrey Norris

Lord Denning's The Closing Chapter completes the series of four highly successful books setting out the way in which he has sought to develop English law in his long and often controversial career.

LORD DENNING The Closing Chapter

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Waterland is a quite brilliant novel, so good that whether Graham Swift wins the Booker Prize or not is in a sense a matter of little consequence.

Stephen Glover The Daily Telegraph

... superbly written... riveting. Waterland is original, compelling and narration of the highest order

Ronald Blythe The Guardian

... establishes Graham Swift as one of the most important talents to emerge in English fiction

John Linklater The Glasgow Herald

HEINEMANN £7.95



Stuart Evans

FOYLES ART GALLERY YOUNG DESIGNER CRAFTSMEN AN EXHIBITION OF MIXED CRAFTS BY THE 1983 LICENTIATES OF THE SOCIETY OF DESIGNER-CRAFTSMEN

10-6 daily until 18 Nov 113-119 Charing Cross Road London WC2

Dead Eye, by Jonathan Ross (Constable, £6.50). Another investigation for Superintendent Rogers in his provincial city, another mystery solved, another in-his-shoes look at coppering for lucky us. First-class again.

The Riddle of the Third Mile, by Colin Dexter (Macmillan, £7.50). Whose body in Oxford? Told with admirably teasing technique, enjoyable as the

THE TIMES DIARY

Keeping tabs on the BUF

Nicholas Mosley knew that Mussolini helped to keep his father's British Union of Fascists in funds before this fact was disclosed by the Home Office papers declassified this week.

Debrett's have slipped up with their forthcoming Texas Peerage, a venture into the murky waters of American "aristocracy".



"I hear poor old Anstruther got very badly mauled"

By the book

Summerhillians are an honest lot. A few weeks ago, publisher Andre Deutsch sent, mistakenly, a copy of All the Best, Neill (a collection of A. S. Neill's letters) to 250 Old Summerhillians.

Seat of power

Some uneasy wrangling is evident among senior Social Democrats. They have been thinking about where they should sit in the European Parliament.

If the Royal Opera House is looking for belt-tightening tips, following charges of extravagance by a government efficiency unit, it could start with the egg sandwiches.

The simple life

Jonathan Porritt, "external relations chairman" of the Ecology Party, confessed during a lecture on "Avoiding the Apocalypse: the Green Perspective" at the Royal Institute of British Architects the other night.

VAD revisited

For the first time ever, women from the Royal Naval Voluntary Aid Detachment will be officially present at the Cenotaph service on Sunday.

Unfair, Mr Speaker, unfair

Russell Johnston asks the Speaker, Bernard Weatherill, right, to give his party its fair say in Parliament



Not all that many members of the public fully realize how important speaking time is in the House of Commons. For the normal backbencher in the Conservative or Labour Parties, the first big question is: "Will I be called in this debate?"

The position of the Liberal Party over the years has been ill-defined. It has been tacitly understood that a Liberal would be called in every full-day debate, and that he would only exceptionally speak for more than 15 minutes.

At the same time there is no doubt that successive speakers were under continual pressure from the two established parties not to be generous to the Liberals.

Since the last election, however, it seems that a new and scandalously unfair settlement is being considered. At the end of the debate on the National Health Service on October 27, David Owen, leader of the SDP and Privy Counsellor, was called and spoke for 20 minutes. No Liberal was called.

After the debate's close a group of the newer Liberal MPs protested and the Speaker responded: "I am sure that the House would consider it extremely unfair if in every debate, and given that we have 650 Honourable Members, the chair had to call a Member from the Social Democratic Party and one from the Liberal Party."

Tory benches, leaving myself for the Liberals with four minutes at most. I told the Speaker that to attempt to present the views of the Liberal Party on foreign affairs in such a time was ludicrous, and I was not going to try.

The electoral system, uniquely among European democracies, denies us parliamentary representation in proportion to our vote. To find this extended to a denial of our right to express our views, and do so at a time likely to be reported by the media, is deeply wrong and opposed to natural justice.

At 9.05 pm, with the Speaker in the chair, the choice again fell on the Opposition and the Liberal Party.

Yesterday in the Court of Appeal Criminal Division we dealt with 16 appeals. Four were attacks on elderly people by teenagers. Let me mention one. Two youths aged 15 and 16 wearing masks broke into the home of an 83-year-old woman in Manchester. She was held at knife point and punched in the mouth, and needed hospital treatment for shock.

When inflicting punishment, is providing possibly the only remaining sanction on the would-be criminal. Punishment is a sanction that ex hypothesi has been unsuccessful. Remedy must be sought much farther back in the history of the delinquent. The various agencies, the specialists who deal with

example in point. And the more that happens the wider is the separation between those experts and ordinary citizens who make up the community.

Since I wrote those words, I have been cheered to read in The Times of October 28 that the penny has dropped in one school at least. That is at Oundle, Northamptonshire, where a two-year project is starting in January to examine the problems of teaching pupils to organize their lives so as to prevent broken

Lord Lane on society's apathy toward delinquency

Cutting the roots of crime

The roots of good social behaviour, the roots of stability and respect for others are to be found in the home, in a stable family life. A good and stable home provides rules for the child to observe, and in due course for the child to rebel against, to see what happens if he does, to test the water and provide excitement and adventure.

Ronald Butt

Video: the questions MPs must ask

We have come a long way since Sir Basil Blackwell, the publisher, shocked progressive opinion by his reply to the question, put to him as a witness in the Central Criminal Court about what effect the book Last Exit from Brooklyn had on him.

The 1959 and 1964 Obscene Publications Acts had prescribed as the test of illegal obscenity that it must have a "tendency to deprave or corrupt the persons who are likely to read it."

When it seemed that this argument and the support of literary "experts" were not enough to defend the increasingly seditious material coming to the courts, a new loophole was exploited.

The Home Secretary himself has some misgivings about this Bill. The Home Office does not want to drive R.18 material underground but Mr Britan has let it be known that if he is convinced from the debate in Parliament that the public interest requires a ban on it, which the Lord Chief Justice is now virtually advocating, the Government would not seek to obstruct it.

Peter Black

Let's cut out the cacophony

A few years ago, on this very page, I wrote a piece protesting against the barbarism of pop music played too loudly in the wrong place.

Of course the very gradual increase in reproduced noise has something to do with this strange tolerance. It took half a century for the gramophone to become the 100-watt stereo amplifier, and every stage in the development of power and portability of radios and music players seemed short and logical.

Police told the luckless households living within half a mile of the Hell's Angels' Cookham party that there was nothing they could do about the amplified music beyond asking the ruffians to turn the noise down, and nothing to prevent them from turning it up again as soon as the police left.



Post Office engineers: time to take the picket armbands off again?

On Monday in the Court of Appeal rug from under the feet of trade unions seeking to use their industrial muscle to frustrate government plans to privatize state-owned businesses and public services.

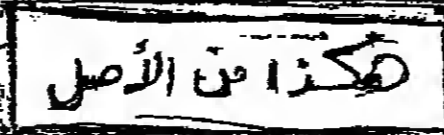
Sir John Donaldson and his fellow judges, granting an injunction to Mercury Communications halting the Post Office engineers' union backing of the private telephone system, have restored the law to what everybody thought it was before Mr Justice Mervyn Davies made his unexpected ruling in favour of the union three weeks ago.

However, the Appeal Court was pushing on a door that is more open than was generally realized. For all the huffing and puffing about "extra parliamentary action" to defeat Cabinet policies, it was quickly evident that the TUC is in no mood to go to the barricades over privatization. That much was clear from an exchange of letters between Bryan Stanley, general secretary of the Post Office Engineering Union (POEU) and Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, which was

Mercury: How the court let the TUC off the hook

evidently designed to lay the ground for an orderly retreat from the strike rhetoric of the Blackpool congress to the more constitutional behaviour. Mr Stanley asked whether his union would be in breach of congress policy if it obeyed the injunction that it expected the Master of the Rolls to grant Mercury yesterday.

Paul Routledge Labour Editor





P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

TAXPAYER'S MONEY

Every year the Chief Secretary to the Treasury has the unenviable but necessary task of bargaining with his Cabinet colleagues over their departmental budgets. The exercise proceeds on the curious assumption that a minister's success is to be judged by his ability to spend public money and that the Chief Secretary is doing his job well if he is conspicuously stingy. On this occasion the negotiations seem to have been relatively peaceful. The Cabinet - due to meet today to finalise matters - is reported to be very close to agreement on £126,500m as the planning total for public expenditure in 1984/85, the same figure as that envisaged in the last expenditure White Paper.

Any bargaining process involves a certain amount of posturing and over-dramatization. It would be wrong to conclude that the recurrent squabbles between the Treasury and the spending departments imply fundamental disagreements in the Government about the level and composition of public expenditure. But the annual negotiations can become so acrimonious that they generate more confusion about short-run policies than understanding of long-run objectives. There is a need to restate why such importance is now attached to public expenditure restraint.

The Government's main aim in keeping spending down is to allow scope for reductions in taxation without endangering its budget deficit targets. Tax cuts tend to be regarded cynically as the means by which a Conservative Government rewards its middle-class voters and solidifies their support. The phrase "im-

COOKING THE EURO-BOOKS

On the eve of the European Community's meeting of foreign and finance ministers, which begins in Athens this morning, the Brussels Commission, has thrown a spanner into the works. Quite without warning, it suggests that the basis on which each member state's budgetary balance has always been calculated should be changed in such a way as drastically to reduce (perhaps by half) Britain's real budget imbalance.

The Commission is always cited, as the principal proposing body for the EEC as a whole, to make suggestions on behalf of the Community from a position of something like umpire of the competing national interests which absorb the representatives of member governments in the Council of Ministers. It is therefore, strictly speaking, legitimate for the Commission to come forward at this moment with a plan for minimizing the British problem, presumably on the theory that the smaller this can be made to appear, the more easily it may be overcome. The wisdom of its intervention, however, is quite another matter.

proposal which is designed to get support from the other member states by apparently reducing the dimensions of the British problem, and in the hope of knocking the British ministers off their position at Athens.

ROUGH JUSTICE

The last of the BBC's second series of television programmes under the title of "Rough Justice" went out last night. They have examined without sensationalism the cases of three prisoners convicted of murder which, it is confidently suggested, they did not commit. The presentations are not conclusive, but they help to focus attention on the procedures for identifying and correcting serious miscarriages of justice. That such occur in small numbers is well attested, and it is a reasonable suspicion that the list is not exhausted in those that are officially acknowledged.

our system of criminal justice. The Home Secretary is right to respect the separation of the judicial and executive powers. But there is a higher and looser principle than these: the doing of justice. And nowhere is it more important that justice be done than in instances where it has first miscarried with wrongful conviction and imprisonment.

its own powers to receive evidence or order a retrial. The advantage of this way of proceeding is that it avoids the likelihood of an independent review body becoming in effect a further court of appeal, though one applying different rules of evidence and procedure to those obtaining in the rest of the system of criminal justice. The disadvantage is that some of the hardest cases, requiring review are ones in which it appears that the standard rules of evidence and procedure have for one reason or another failed to yield justice. If so there may be little to be gained from putting them through the same mill once again.

Law on intervention in civil strife

From Dr M. H. Mendelson
Sir, Lord Home's letter and your leader of November 4 criticise international law for condemning intervention in support of governments overthrown by force.

Modern international law does in fact permit military intervention by outside states in support of established governments in certain limited circumstances. It does not, however, permit such intervention in support of governments which have actually been overthrown by internal revolution or *coup d'etat* if the successors are effectively operating as a government.

Tanzania and Grenada
From the High Commissioner for Tanzania
Sir, in your editorial of November 4 you have, once again, managed to do what only *The Times* can do - to weave in a gratuitous attack on Tanzania when discussing an issue that has nothing to do with Tanzania.

British business has eye on recovery

From the Director General of the Confederation of British Industry
Sir, Your leader, "Getting on with the job" (November 8), accusing British business of "whingeing on" about the Government and the economy, was clearly written by someone not attending the CBI conference which it purported to comment upon.

It is true that Britain will have a higher growth rate than any other EEC country. The figures in our October economic situation report confirmed this. To take the major ECC countries, France is likely to have a decline in GDP of one-half per cent, Italy a fall of one per cent, and even the German economy is only expected to grow by one per cent.

Teenage betting

From the Chairman of the National Council on Gambling
Sir, Those who are concerned about the social impact of gambling, particularly on the family, must have considerable reservations about two clauses of the Betting, Gaming and Lotteries (Amendment) Bill which is due to have a second reading on November 11.

Nothing would speak more powerfully of the solemnity of the marriage vow than the insistence that only the person to whom it was made could release from it. It might also provide some incentive to avoid vindictive bitterness that too often accompanies the progress of divorce through the courts.

Church and remarriage

From the Reverend Graham Shaw
Sir, When the Church of England decided to present a more compassionate face to the divorced it embarked on a brave and difficult course. Many divorced people have already been deeply hurt by their experience and need to be treated with generosity and sympathy.

From Professor Emeritus R. Whitlam, FRCS
Sir, There are two issues. One is the incidence of cancer and is being investigated. The other question of deep concern is the level of radioactivity from Morecambe Bay to the Solway Firth.

Sellfield emissions

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Buildings at risk

From the Chairman of the Historic Buildings Council for England
Sir, The Historic Buildings Council shares the anxiety expressed in your columns about the Government's proposal to divide the functions of the Greater London Council's Historic Buildings Division between the DoE, the Royal Commission on Historic Monuments, the 32 boroughs and the Corporation of London.

Video violence

From the President of the National Viewers' and Listeners' Association
Sir, I am afraid you presume too much in your leader "Video violence" (November 5), when you say that Mr Graham Bright's private member's Bill is designed "to legislate against what is illegal already".

Severn bridge

From Mr Michael F. Levey
Sir, What can the Managing Director of HTV (November 5) possibly think will be the benefit of banning all but heavy goods vehicle traffic? Private traffic now serves to space out the rest.

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Bird in the hand

From Lord Aberconway
Sir, If Bats succeed in capturing a City Eagle (report, November 3) what a Star performance! Yours, ABERCONWAY, 8 The Sanctuary, Westminster, SW1. November 4.

declining, for the record, by nearly 14,000 a month on average. And company liquidations in the third quarter of this year, 17 per cent up on a year earlier, were at the highest ever recorded level.

There was overwhelming recognition that the reduction of the inflation rate is a major achievement which has led to an entirely new economic climate in which industry can begin to grow from the disastrous position in which it found itself as a result of the Government policies of five years and more ago.

Government help is needed, however, for example to implement CBI recommendations leading to fairer international trading conditions and the prohibition of unitary taxation. These are things that industry cannot do for itself.

Rest assured there is no lack of optimism or ability to take advantage of the opportunities which exist. Yours, etc. MICHAEL DOBSON, Director, Western Fuel Company, Commerce House, 97/101 Abbey Road, Torquay, Devon. November 8.

and television broadcasting, video recordings, other forms of entertainment and refreshments in betting offices. There seems no purpose for this provision unless it is proposed to relax the present restrictions.

The existing facilities licensed betting offices include the Exeter commentary. There is a great deal of evidence that excessive gambling is encouraged by this commentary. The introduction of television into betting offices will undoubtedly be a further incitement encouraging excess.

As far as the provision of entertainments and refreshments is concerned, these additional facilities in betting offices will attract some people who would otherwise have gone there. They must therefore be seen to be what they are - an encouragement to bet.

There is something to be said for improving the general conditions in licensed betting offices so as to avoid a situation where betting transactions are carried out in drab surroundings. However, such improvements can occur without any change in the existing law. The admission of young people and the provision of facilities which would encourage those who otherwise would not go into betting offices to do so, and when there to bet excessively, should be opposed.

The price of allowing this to happen will be an increase in pathological gambling and the consequent disturbance to the family and the community. Yours faithfully, E. MORAN, Chairman, The National Council on Gambling, 26 Bedford Square, WCI.

I have a final suggestion to offer and it was made to us by Mr John Smyth, QC, following his study of Mr Bright's Bill, and I quote it with his permission. It is that clause 4(1) should be amended. This deals with the authority to be responsible for determining "whether or not video works are suitable for showing".



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
November 9: The Queen left Heathrow Airport for London this morning in a British Airways TriStar aircraft (Captain John Lester) for the State Visits to Kenya, Bangladesh and India.

Captain Simon Stephenson and Miss Anne Beckwith-Smith were in attendance.
Their Royal Highnesses this evening attended the 10th Anniversary Dinner of Independent Local Radio at the Mansion House.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr T. J. Akroyd and Miss N. Stokes
The engagement is announced between James, son of Mr and Mrs T. N. Akroyd, of Sidcup and Staplecross, and Nora, daughter of the late Mr and Mrs G. C. Stokes, of Singapore.

Mr D. A. Fichel and Miss S. C. Coward
The engagement is announced between David, younger son of Mr and Mrs J. R. Fichel, of Shoreham, Kent, and Susan, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs D. J. Coward, of West Chilmington, Sussex, formerly of Nairobi, Kenya.

Marriages

Mr N. J. H. Houldsworth and Miss M. J. Lee
The marriage took place on Saturday, November 5, at All Saints Church, Odham, of Mr Nigel Houldsworth, son of Mr and Mrs H. H. Houldsworth, of Whitelee, Galashiels, Selkirkshire, and Miss Melanie Lee, daughter of Mr and Mrs H. K. Lee, of The Priory, Odham, Hampshire. The Rev Anthony Gracie officiated, assisted by Mr Nicholas Lee.



Royal tour: The Queen boarding a British Airways TriStar at Heathrow Airport, London, yesterday, for a tour of Kenya, Bangladesh and India.

Poet's perception put to the test

By Huon Mallalieu
A copy of the first edition of W. H. Auden's Poems, one of about 24 printed by Stephen Spender in 1928, was offered in a sale of printed books by Christie's yesterday.

Memorial service

Mr C. C. Oman
A memorial service for Mr Charles Chichele Oman was held in the Crypt Chapel, St Paul's Cathedral, yesterday.

OBITUARY

SIR JOHN FISHER

Coastal shipping in wartime
Sir John Fisher, who died at his home in Cumbria on November 7, was a prominent figure in shipping circles for many years, and played an important part in the Second World War as Director of Coasting and Short Sea Shipping in the Ministry of War Transport. He was 91.

University news

Cambridge
The Science Policy Research Unit has received a £1.2m grant to support its energy and industrial innovation programmes.

MR ALFRED FRIENDLY

Mr Alfred Friendly, who died in Washington on November 7, was Managing Editor of the Washington Post from 1955 to 1965 and an influential figure in American journalism.

Latest wills

Lady Fenshaw, of Sharnley Green, Surrey, died on November 7, leaving an estate valued at £109,721 net.

Service dinner

Fyde Officers' Association
Flight-Lieutenant Brian Ormshaw presided at the annual remembrance dinner of the Fyde Officers' Association held at the Savoy Hotel.

Concert

Abbeo European Young Musicians
At the Merchant Taylors' Hall in the City of London on Tuesday night a concert took place to launch the Abbeo European Young Musicians' Trust.

BETTY NUTHALL

Betty Nuthall, who died in New York on November 8 at the age of 72, was in 1930 the first British tennis player to win the US Women's Lawn Tennis Singles Championship.

MR IAN ROBERTSON

Mr Ian Robertson, who died in Israel on October 7 at the age of 73, had over a period of more than 30 years, made an outstanding contribution to the development of the welfare and administration of the department of Fine (now Western) Art at the Ashmolean Museum.

Science report

Testing the syntax of a squid

By Clive Cookson Technology Correspondent
Moyzibhan and Rodaniche are beginning to test the hypothesis by feeding their observation into a computer programmed for linguistic analysis.

Cartier advertisement featuring a watch and the text 'le mut de Cartier boutique HARVEY NICHOLS, KNIGHTSBRIDGE, LONDON SW3. TELEPHONE 01-235 5000.'

Large vertical advertisement on the right edge of the page, partially cut off, with the text 'HE AT 9.' and other illegible text.

THE ARTS

Theatre

All too knowing an imitation of America

Dear Anyone
Cambridge

This Birmingham Repertory show is a thoroughgoing attempt by an all-British team to create an all-American musical. Through the career of an agony columnist, Dear Anyone sets out to expose the private life of Manhattan, drawing on the combined resources of the musical theatre to take you inside the minds of the anonymous crowd.

has indeed designed an imposing globe-shaped shell, but when it opens it proves to contain only one office, its Mercedes running this outfit by herself.

Indians, and she tells him to call her "Miss Taylor". Jack Rosenthal's hook does nothing to prepare you for this volte face; but, once it has happened, the show likewise switches from a theatrical Miss Lonelyhearts to the uninteresting question of Will Success Spoil Mercedes? For the record, it does. But, just as she was pitched into the life of an ambitious harridan, so it only takes a critical letter from one of her staff to bring her back to her nice unassuming self and into Danny's arms.

badly dislocated, and comes over as a knowing imitation of America rather than America itself. Irving Wardle

Ultramundane
ICA

Performance theatre at the ICA usually forces spectators to draw the awkward, inevitably subjective, line between communicative use of images and pseudobly private references. The fact that two members of the Station House Opera company are former members of the Theatre of Mistakes gives a frame of reference for the dramatic use of human bodies as supple images for houses and furniture.

to a garden. He strips him off to conduct a medical inspection. Uncomfortable situations combine two girls embracing desperately on piggyback, or a girl rolling a writhing boy through inconsolable and tortured poses until he escapes to get himself and his clothes together.



Long-suffering Peter Blake as Danny with Jane Lapotaire's vibrant Mercedes in Dear Anyone

Television
Literary rituals

The subject of last night's Arena profile (BBC 2), Anthony Powell, has just been described by Anthony Burgess as a parochial English phenomenon, if the Sunday newspapers are to be believed; but Burgess seems to have forgotten that fiction must have a strong local flavour before it can acquire the unconscious universality of great art.

Powell's range of reference is, in any case, very wide. A Dance to the Music of Time, his sequence of 12 novels, is concerned with the nature of mortality and in that dance we can see madness as well as the rituals of "ordinary" life. These are not small things, and they can be exemplified in "upper middle-class" English life as well as anywhere else.

Nicholas Kenyon

Peter Ackroyd

LAST 4 PERFS
Tonight, tomorrow at 7.45
Sat 3.00 & 7.45
Eduardo de Filippo's
Inner Voices
in a translation by N F Simpson
Robert Stephens in the central role of...
an enthralling piece of eccentric drama?
STANDBY:
from 10am on the day
- all seats £5
NATIONAL THEATRE
(Lyttelton)
Box Office 01-928 2252
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A very occasional glimpse of Britten

CBSO/Rattle
Birmingham Town Hall

All within a few weeks, the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra has restored to the repertory two Britten pieces long unheard. Both, curiously, were titled as Occasional Overtures, the occasion of the first being the opening of the Third Programme; a resilient performance under John Carewe last month suggested that Britten already had some presentiment of the network's future in making his festive contribution

rather worried. In any event, he never wanted the piece played again. The second overture, introduced on Tuesday, had been even more completely suppressed. There had been no earlier performance at all, and when the score came to light in the 1970s Britten had no recollection of having written it. Nor is that too surprising: it is not the kind of music that will lodge long in the memory.

Concerts
City of London
Sinfonia/Hickox
Queen Elizabeth Hall
Barry Gny is one of the most versatile of London's orchestral musicians: his double-bass playing can often be heard underpinning baroque orchestras, chamber groups and contemporary ensembles. He has also been active as a composer, developing techniques for his instrument which involve the use of amplification and distortion.

they have just got back from brunch at the Copland place. The main personality, though, is Britten's, even if it is not very strongly felt. The wrapping of a march around an allegro is for him formally uningenuous (this was, after all, the period of his Second Quartet), and there are pages of disappointingly docile invention.

HE'S A PRISONER OF WAR. SHE'S A PRISONER OF LIFE. AT 9.30 TONIGHT, YOU'LL BE CAPTIVATED.



- 5.00 Countdown
The popular panel game which tests your skill with words and numbers.
- 5.30 Fanny Waterman's Piano Progress
Fanny Waterman's pupils leave the classroom for the concert platform.
- 6.30 The Good Food Show
News, views, and sound advice on food, with Prue Leith.
- 7.00 Channel 4 News 7.50 Comment
- 8.00 The Malibu World Disco Dancing Championships
Tonight, it's the World Final, and the atmosphere at Xenon is electric.
- 9.00 Soap
More mayhem with the Tates and the Campbells.
- 9.30 Film on Four: Another Time, Another Place
It is September 1944. In a remote Scottish village, the romantic young wife of a farmworker pursues a love affair with an Italian prisoner of war. But for both of them, the freedom they seek is unexpectedly elusive.
- 11.25 What The Papers Say
- 11.40 Our Lives: The Knockers' Tale
The first of eight documentary drama films about the lives of young people from London's East End.

KEEP YOUR EYE ON 4

MARKET REPORT by Derek Pain

Spotlight on electricals

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began, Oct 31. Dealings end, Nov 11. Contango Day, Nov 14. Settlement Day, Nov 21.

Electricals made the running yesterday. Hopes that next week's financial statement from the Chancellor could be encouraging for defence contracts was the important factor behind the advance.

But there were other influences. GEC continued to draw strength from the recent re-rating by Merrill Lynch and Plessey rose 10p to 220p on the settlement - no details are being revealed - of a damages lawsuit by the American Rohm Corporation. When it launched the action, Rohm claimed \$100m (£67m) in damages.

After an indifferent start, equities edged forward and gilts made good progress. Blue Circle Industries fell 2p to 418p after it denied rumours that it intended to sell its 55 per cent-owned South African fishfarm. When the speculation was at its peak, the shares were 13p up at 433p.

Pleasurama, the casino group, jumped 25p to 363p as Grand Metropolitan picked up 335,000 shares, lifting its shareholding to 29.94 per cent. Grand Met said it had acquired more Pleasurama shares "pending the outcome" of the

Monopolies Commission inquiry into the Pleasurama-Trident merger and had "no intention" of buying more shares.

The Commission is due to report in the next two weeks. ICI, with the American enthusiasm fading, fell 8p to 228p.

Mebon, maker of industrial coatings and paints, is on its way to the USM. Hill Samuel is placing 1,250,000 shares at about 95p each. The company, which has done rather well from the North Sea oil and gas development, expects profits of at least £800,000 in its current year.

580p. Mr Jim Cook, an analyst at Wood Mackenzie, the stockbroker, claims that the present share price is "not sustainable" and expects a fall to 540p.

Henderson's Group, the investment adviser, denied suggestions that it has been

big buyer sending Akroyd and Smithers shares soaring recently. Henderson was a large holder of Akroyd shares before it sought a stock market quotation in the Summer.

Octopus Publishing announced a £3m takeover of Trimax Books, a Newark-based children's books company. It will pay £3m immediately, with the balance paid according to profits performance.

In September, Octopus joined forces with Habitat Mouchereux to establish a new publishing company to specialise in publications on various aspects of modern living.

Consistants (Computers) was the victim of fading bids, falling 30p to 560p and Kofe International continued to suffer from the lower profits warning, losing another 8p to 242p.

Shares of H P Bulmer, the cider makers, have fallen 60p from their high to 265p although interim profits next month should be judging £10m and analysts expect up to £17.5m for the full year compared with £13.5m last time. The cider market continues to grow but competition is intensifying. Latest to get involved is Greenall Whitley, the largest regional brewery, which plans to make its own cider next year.

Humberstone Electricals fell 1p to 14p following its £486,000 cash-call. Shares are being offered at 12p on a one-for-three basis.

Scottish and Newcastle Breweries, the Younger group, managed to end with a small gain following the apparent settlement of its damaging Edinburgh drymen's strike.

The group, which is at last emerging from a poor profits

run, has been hit two strikes and some analysts were suggesting that if the drymen's strike went on for much longer the group's profit revival could come to an abrupt halt.

Even so, some had scaled-down profit projections, which had stretched to £53m, against £41.1m last time.

Commercial Union, down 1p at 175p on its third-quarter figures, has not noticed any unusual share register movements following the outbreak of bid hostilities over Eagle Star.

General Accident, also reporting yesterday, fell 12p to 421p.

Bullish stockbroker comments influenced clearing banks, although lower-than-expected profits clipped Hill Samuel, the merchant banker, 9p to 266p.

In properties, Iary continued to reflect the reduction of the Norwich Union share stake, falling another 10p to 250p.

The Irish oil stocks were leading the pack with a 25p gain to 600p. But elsewhere among oils, Sea fell 25p to 240p.

RECENT ISSUES table with columns for company name, price, and change.

BRITISH FUNDS table with columns for fund name, price, and change.

MEDIEVAL table with columns for company name, price, and change.

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN table with columns for company name, price, and change.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES table with columns for authority name, price, and change.

DOLLAR STOCKS table with columns for company name, price, and change.

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS table with columns for bank name, price, and change.

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES table with columns for company name, price, and change.

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL table with columns for company name, price, and change.

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THE TIMES 1000 1982/1983 The World's Top Companies

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Sterling: Spot and Forward table with columns for market rates and forward rates.

Money Market Rates table with columns for clearing bank base rate and discount rate.

Other Markets table with columns for various international market rates.

Dollar Spot Rates table with columns for various dollar spot rates.

Euro-£ Deposits table with columns for various Euro-£ deposit rates.

Gold table with columns for gold prices and related market data.

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Supercut, Reli, CWS plan, etc. Vertical advertisement on the right edge.

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Supervision: the cost of further City freedom

The City must expect continuing supervision from the Bank of England and others, whatever happens in the great revolution that is now sweeping through our financial markets.



Christopher MacMahon: laying down markers for the Bank's future attitude

In what is clearly intended to be a marker for the Bank's future attitude to the rapid changes that are now afflicting the Stock Exchange, Lloyd's and the money markets, Mr MacMahon presented what he called the "intellectual case for the supervision of financial markets".

While financial services appear on the surface to represent an outstanding example of the efficiency which can result from classical competitive capitalism, he argued, this was deceptive.

These principles apply in different ways to different financial institutions - and the solutions are not, and need not be, uniform.

Reuters: a prize too big for integrity alone

After 5½ hours discussing proposals from merchant bankers S. G. Warburg and accountants Blyden Hamlyn for the restructuring and flotation of Reuters yesterday, the board of the news agency transformed into financial services growth company reported "useful progress" and put the whole plan back for another month.

It is hard enough to persuade the wary Fleet Street magnates who own two fifths of Reuters through their association, to agree on anything that might benefit each other. Add in the representatives of the provincial press their Australasian counterparts, the need for unanimity, tax problems and the tough subject of maintaining the integrity of loss-making news services and you have a classic recipe for deadlock.

Reuters draws near - projected at least among enthusiastic Fleet Street promoters - new doubts appear. The Chancellor family, which has been closely connected to the agency, has raised the spectre of the independent source of Britain's foreign news sacrificed in the race for rapid profit.

Mr James Callaghan, the former prime minister, yesterday weighed in, warning the Attorney General of "public disquiet". Reuters' chairman Sir Denis Hamilton has repeatedly made it clear that the agreement of trust (not a legal trust) between shareholders to maintain the independence of Reuters from any single interest must be maintained. This indeed, coupled with the need of provincial newspapers to support the Press Association through which they hold Reuters interests, is at the heart of the difficulties over the various flotation schemes.

Should there be two classes of voting and non-voting shares, with the newspaper companies retaining 30 per cent voting stakes or perhaps a few special shares, like those created for some privatized state companies, to preserve the agency's independence? The Australians have already arranged to receive Reuters dividends direct, while retaining control through the Australian Press Association. This might yet be a model for the future.

NEWS IN BRIEF

- CWS plans £8.5m plant on Deeside. Co-operative Wholesale Society, principle supplier to Britain's 7,000 Co-op stores, is to build its first factory for half a century...

British groups hopeful about Chinese deals

The Chinese are negotiating with seven big British companies which are thinking of setting up factories in China. The Sino-British Trade Council, which coordinated a Bank of China delegation visits to London last month, refused to name the companies involved. It confirmed, however, that all the negotiations are "at an advanced stage".

Shares in BP's Forties field awarded to 19 companies

By David Young, Energy Correspondent. Nineteen companies have been successful in winning a stake in BP's lucrative Forties North Sea oil field at £7.5m a share.

The largest batch of ¼ per cent shares - six - have been bought by Elf, the French oil company. Britain's Charterhouse Petroleum was five.



Mr Peter Walters: BP will get £38.5m from share sale

Accountants in inquiry over Manx bank

By Andrew Corrolien. The Institute of Chartered Accountants is examining the role of the international accountancy firm, Midgley Snelling, in advising clients to invest in International Finance and Trust Corporation, the Isle of Man bank which collapsed in September 1981.

The ICA inquiry follows the acceptance by the bank's creditors of an £8.7m settlement against Midgley Snelling. According to the magazine Accounting Age, the settlement was agreed by Midgley Snelling in return for a world-wide attorney for its partners against any further actions of negligence.

An article in today's edition of the settlement says that the settlement was agreed by Mr Peter Shortall, of Cooper and Lybrand, the ITC liquidator, is probably the largest ever against a British firm of accountants.

He said that the ICA was determined to see that its members maintained the highest professional standards wherever they practised.

RTZ's award of four shares comes at a time when the company is expanding its interest in the North Sea by offering to buy its present partner's interest in 14 other North Sea blocks, in a deal worth £60m. RTZ has made the offer, which includes a 5 per cent stake in the recently-onstream Mautern field, to British Electric Traction.

Sainsbury's profit soars by 28%

By Jonathan Clark

The opening of six new supermarkets together with an unexpectedly strong growth in grocery sales in existing shops, has helped J Sainsbury to report again profits which astonished the City.

Sainsbury has doubled its market share of the grocery business in the last six years and is now without doubt Britain's largest food store company after ousting the Co-operative movement from the prime position during the last year.

Homebase, the do-it-yourself joint venture with a positive contribution to group profits in 18 months when 25 stores should be trading. Associated company profits, derived largely from the Sava-Centre hypermarket joint venture with British Home Stores, increased from £2.5m to £3.2m.

Food price inflation, despite a weather-induced rise in the summer and autumn, is still running at about 4.5 per cent with little likelihood of much change this year.

Gilts make small gains

Gilts recorded modest gains yesterday, with hopes of lower inflation outweighing disappointment with Tuesday's money supply figures.

The Government broker's supplies of 9¼ per cent convertible Treasury stock were exhausted. It was the firmness of gilts which helped equities - as measured by the FT 30-share index - to reverse an earlier fall and close with a smattering of modest gains.

The market is likely to continue to be quiet until next week's financial statement from the Chancellor.

Palma in reverse takeover

By Jeremy Warner

Palma, the Marks and Spencer children's socks supplier owned by the Leicester businessman, Mr Peter Bailey, is coming to the stock market via a reverse takeover of lostmaking Montfort (Knitting Mills).

Mr Bailey won control of Montfort last July after four years of efforts. Now he is putting in train moves to bring his highly successful private clothing company, which trades under the name of Pex and supplies Mothercare and other leading high street chains as well as M and S, under the same stock market quota as Montfort.

Montfort will pay for Palma, which has a net worth of about £3m against Montfort's own net worth of £1.5m, in shares. At the same time County Bank will place the 55.7 per cent stake in Montfort that Palma built up in its bid for control among its own clients.

A further placing of shares to raise new money for the business is also being considered. Palma is expected to forecast more than doubled pretax profits of about £1m for this year in documentation of the deal.

While Montfort recently reported a half-year loss of the same amount, Mr Bailey believes he is already well on the way towards stemming the outflow.

Montfort also manufactures socks from factories in Leicester, and Margate, Kent, and has three smaller knitwear companies in Derbyshire and Leicestershire.

Last month the new management put in by Palma in July said it was taking a hard look at these facilities.

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plus £18,150 a year for life from an investment of only £700 a year, net* with C. Howard & Partners

For the self-employed, or employees in jobs without a pension, there is no better way of saving tax and ensuring your financial security at retirement than a Personal Pension Plan.

THE NEXT STEP - You owe it to yourself to achieve the best solution to a secure future. Take action now and return the coupon below. Naturally our advice will be confidential and without obligation.

Form with fields for Name, Address, Telephone, Date of Birth, Occupation, Pension type, and a box for C. Howard & Partners Ltd. Specialists in Retirement Planning.

Commercial Union and General Accident performance 'dented'

Hurricane costs two insurers £17.6m

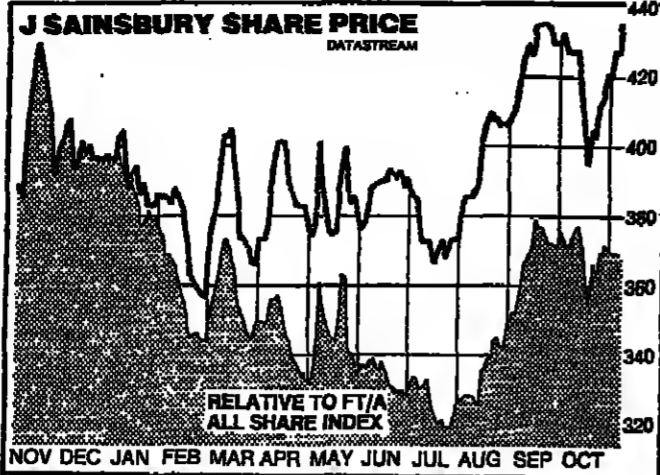
Table with 4 columns: Company Name, Nine months to 30.9.83, Pretax profit, Stated earnings, Investment income, Underwriting loss, Share price. Includes Commercial Union Assurance Company, General Accident Fire and Life Assurance Corporation, and Commercial Union Assurance Company.

General Accident said that without the hurricane losses the company would have managed a small underlying improvement in the US underwriting experience. Total group premium income rose from £910m to £1,028m, while investment income increased from £143m to £153m.

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK ● edited by Michael Prest

Smiths prepares for transformation

Smiths Industries
Year to 30.9.83
Pretax profit £26.8m (£26.4m)
Stated earnings 33.4p (33.2p)
Turnover £381m (£386m)
Net final dividend 7.5 (7p)
Share price 423p (up 25p) Yield 3.99
Dividend payable 3.1.84



J. Sainsbury beat most of the City's forecasts for its first half with a 28 per cent increase in profits. Report page 17.

Every driver knows that Smith's Industries makes speedometers, and every driver is wrong. Since the sale of most of its automotive business to Lucas and Hanson Trust, car instruments have passed into Smith's history.

Medical companies within the group now account for 40 per cent of pretax profits and a third of profits and a third of profits is made in the United States. But the biggest contributor to trading profits is aerospace, whose share rose fractionally to 12.6m out of total trading profits of £31.4m, itself up £1m. Smiths has suffered from the defragmentation of the Tornado programme and from slack orders for civil aircraft. But both military and civilian orders are expected to show long-term growth. Distribution of motor and industrial parts, by contrast, has been hit by persistent low demand which shows little sign of picking up. Trading profits crept ahead from £1.16m to £1.34m, but from a low base. Losses forced Smiths to close the Clock Company, another break with the past. Trading profits at the wide-ranging industrial division fell by £700,000 to £4.82m, largely because of problems with Integrated Air Systems in

the dealing equity portfolio, the performance of the merchant bank the powerhouse in recent years - has been flat. But experience within the bank was uneven.

Traditional commercial banking, where Hill Samuel has turned to greater specialization, has done well. Investment banking around the world, including domestic corporate finance, has been exceptional. But gains in these areas were largely offset by a sharp downturn in treasury and trading operations due, among other things, to less volatile and thinner markets. Among the other activities, which provide something over one-third of profits, problems with US data processing activities led to a downturn in employee benefit services, and a pretax improvement in insurance broking was masked at the bottom line by a higher tax charge.

Hill Samuel

Hill Samuel
Half-year to 30.9.83
After-tax profit £10.8m (£9.66m)
Stated earnings 15.01p (13.82p)
Net interim dividend 3.0p (2.8p)
Share price 263p, down 12p
Dividend payable 3.1.84

Hill Samuel's half-year results were met with disappointment in the market. The group's starting performance in recent years - disclosed profits have risen from £7.7m in 1980 to £20.1m in the year to last March - perhaps help to explain this. Yet, although below some outside estimates, after-tax profits have still shown a creditable rise of nearly 12 per cent to £10.8m. Excluding profits taken on

Chubb & Son

Chubb & Son
Half-year to 30.9.83
Pretax profit £4.5m (£4m)
Stated earnings 3.6p (2.87p)
Turnover £143.2m (£140.4m)
Net interim dividend 1.95p (1.9486p)
Share price 144p unchanged, Yield 5.9%

The pretax profits of Chubb & Son, the security systems group, rose from £4m to £4.5m in the half year to the end of

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

Table listing various companies and their financial performance metrics such as Year to 30.6.83, Pretax profit, Stated earnings, Turnover, and Net dividend.

WALL STREET

Table of Wall Street market data including various stock indices, company prices, and market activity.

COMMODITIES

Table of commodity prices for various metals and resources, including London Metal Exchange rates and international financial data.

Commercial Union 9 MONTHS REVIEW

The Board announces an estimated and unaudited profit before taxation and minorities, for 9 months ended 30th September 1983, of £43.8m (1982 £24.3m). After allowing for taxation and minorities, the profit was £22.2m (1982 £15.0m). All our major territorial operations, apart from the United States, showed an improvement over the same period of last year.

Financial summary table for Commercial Union Assurance Company plc, comparing 9 months ended 30th Sept 1983, 30th Sept 1982, and Year 1982 across various metrics like Premium Income, Profit Before Taxation, and Shareholders' Funds.

World-wide non-life premium income growth was 9% in sterling terms (1982 12%). After allowing for the effect of changes in rates of exchange, the underlying growth was under 1% (1982 9%). Investment income, net of loan interest, increased by 12% (1982 22%). After allowing for the effect of changes in rates of exchange, the underlying increase was 3% (1982 20%). In the United States, the statutory operating ratio was 118.5% (1982 117.1%), made up of a claims ratio to earned premiums of 84.8% (1982 82.9%), and an expense ratio to written premiums of 33.7% (1982 34.2%). The underwriting experience reflected the cost of hurricane Alicia, amounting to £7.6m, and the continuation of upward revisions to outstanding claims provisions. In commercial lines the competitive market prevailed, but in personal lines improved experience was maintained. Premium income continued to reflect our programme of consolidation and was 7% lower than last year (1982 growth 11%). In the United Kingdom, non-life premium growth of 11% was at a similar level to 9 months 1982. The underwriting loss was lower than last year, although experience for personal business showed some deterioration in the current quarter and market conditions generally remained competitive. In the Netherlands, the deterioration in the underwriting result reflected adverse motor experience. However, after taking into account investment income and life profits, the overall result was satisfactory. Non-life

premium income increased by 6%, compared with nil growth for the same period of last year, the increase reflecting a reduction in outward reinsurance. In Canada, despite some deterioration in motor experience during the current quarter, an overall underwriting profit was achieved. Increased competition limited premium income growth to 3%, but, nevertheless, this compared favourably with 9 months 1982. Underwriting experience for Rest of the World continued to improve, the main contribution coming from Western Europe, primarily in France and Belgium. The result for the Far East remained satisfactory. Overall non-life premium growth was 6% (1982 8%). World-wide life profits increased very significantly, particularly in the United Kingdom and the Netherlands. The life portfolios in the United States, Canada and Belgium were also profitable and, after allowing for the effect of changes in rates of exchange, overall profits increased by 29% when compared with the same period of last year.

Small table showing the results of the Company's operations, converted at the rates of exchange prevailing at the close of the periods reported, comparing 30th Sept 1983, 30th Sept 1982, and 1982 for US, NL, and Canada.

Table with a logo and text 'ESTD 1742'.

WHITBREAD

AND COMPANY PLC Half Year Report

Results for six months to 27th August, 1983

Whitbread and Company PLC announces unaudited Profits for the six months to 27th August, 1983 and an Interim Dividend of 1.85p per share. This represents an increase in dividend of 12.1% over the first half of last year. The Interim Dividend will be paid on 6th January, 1984 to Shareholders on the Register at close of business on 2nd December, 1983.

Table comparing 6 months to 27.8.83 and 6 months to 28.8.82 for Turnover, Trading profit, and Earnings per share.

The immediate turnover for the six months was £580.6m, an increase of 37.6% over the same period last year. Profit before tax and extraordinary items was £50.0m and Profit after tax was £39.5m, showing increases of 13.9% and 25.4% respectively.

The Group's share of the profits less losses of principal associated companies was included in the consolidated Profit and Loss account for the year ended 28th February, 1983. Previously only dividends received were included. Also, with effect from the 1982/83 financial year-end, foreign currencies have been translated using the closing rate basis prescribed by SSAP 20. The figures for the six months ended 28th August, 1982 have been re-stated to reflect these changes.

Due to poor weather the trade in May and June had been disappointing. However, the heatwave from late June to August gave a much needed stimulus to trade and our half-year figures reflect this. Lager sales benefited particularly, and we are strongly placed with Heineken, Stella Artois and Kaltenberg Pils showing significant growth.

Despite the good summer the underlying trend in beer sales remains dull, except in the Take Home sector which continues to grow. Mackeson and Gold Label Barley Wine strengthened their dominant positions in their particular sectors, and important new launches for the Take Home market were Trophy and Best Bitter in can and a range of two litre plastic (PET) bottles, all of which have been very well received. Our ale brands have performed well, led by Whitbread Best Bitter in the South, and Trophy in the North, underpinned by local ales such as Flowers, Chesters, Wethers, Strong Country, Fremilns and Castle Eden which retain their regional popularity. Stallalls of Chelsea have out-performed the growth in the Table Wine market as a whole, led by the highly successful Wine Box range, to which we have added Claret, Muscadet and Liebfraumlich - all high quality wines at reasonable prices. We recently sold our 5 millionth Wine Box and remain the market leader. Our ranges of Langenbach, Corrida and Tonjurs also show significant increases. Spirit sales remain depressed but our Long John products have held their own in the UK market. Helped by the hot summer, soft drinks have also done well and our extensive range, marketed under the Canada Dry, R. Whites and Rawlings labels, have shown satisfactory progress.

The major part of our investment programme continues to be directed towards our pubs, in order to improve the facilities we offer. The beefeater development programme has continued, with 136 outlets now trading. We have established our 'Roast Inns', which are now ready for expansion. Our joint venture with Pizzeria in Pizza Hut restaurants grows in strength and is expanding rapidly. We have increased our investment in Country Club hotels and Disco units, both of which are trading well.

In the USA Julius Wile's half-year results exceeded expectations and Scoresby Rare, the leading Scotch brand of Highland Distillers of California, continues to show outstanding growth, despite the overall

downward trend in Scotch whisky sales in the USA. In Europe, the unusually large wine vintage in 1982 has caused wine prices to fall significantly. While sales volumes have increased, margins have been under pressure. Calvert continues to do well in its export markets, particularly in Japan. In Belgium, sales of Whitbread beers produced improved results during the half-year. In Nigeria, economic problems have continued to delay the progress of the Group's operations. Cashed export sales of Long John Whisky have increased over the same period last year. This comparison is particularly favourable in the light of the overall industry trend of a decline in bottled in Scotland brands. Export sales of hulk whisky are also significantly ahead.

The success of our new ventures, both in International and Retailing markets, give cause for optimism. However, despite the boom to trade given by the hot summer, there is still some way to go before the earlier dullness of the UK beer market is over. But with our investment in retailing and our strong brands portfolio, we are confident that we shall produce a satisfactory result for the full financial year.

Mr. Charles Tidbury, the Chairman of Whitbread, will be retiring from the Chair at the end of July next year, at the time of the Annual General Meeting. He will be succeeded by Mr. Sam Whitbread, who will be appointed Deputy Chairman as from January 1st, 1984. In preparation for this change-over, Mr. Tidbury earlier announced a realignment of Board responsibilities in May of this year. He will remain on the Board of Whitbread as a Non-Executive Director, and also on the Board of the Whitbread Investment Company. Mr. Sam Whitbread has been closely connected with the Company for many years, has been a member of the Board since 1972, and also a member of the Whitbread South-East Board since 1975.



Brewery, Chiswell Street, London EC1Y 4SD

Good

A collection of fine pieces on the big punchers

The drum beats could have men from Panama dancing again

By Srikanth Sen, Boxing Correspondent

Two boxers with awesome reputations, Marvin Hagler and Roberto Duran, face each other at Caesars Palace, Las Vegas tonight...

Though the two men had similarly rough beginnings, one in the ghettos of New Jersey, the other in the slums of Panama...

According to a book, The Big Punchers, by the TV commentator Reg Gutteridge...

Hagler on the other hand is an "easy-to-smile man with impeccable manners, who dresses like a stockbroker"...

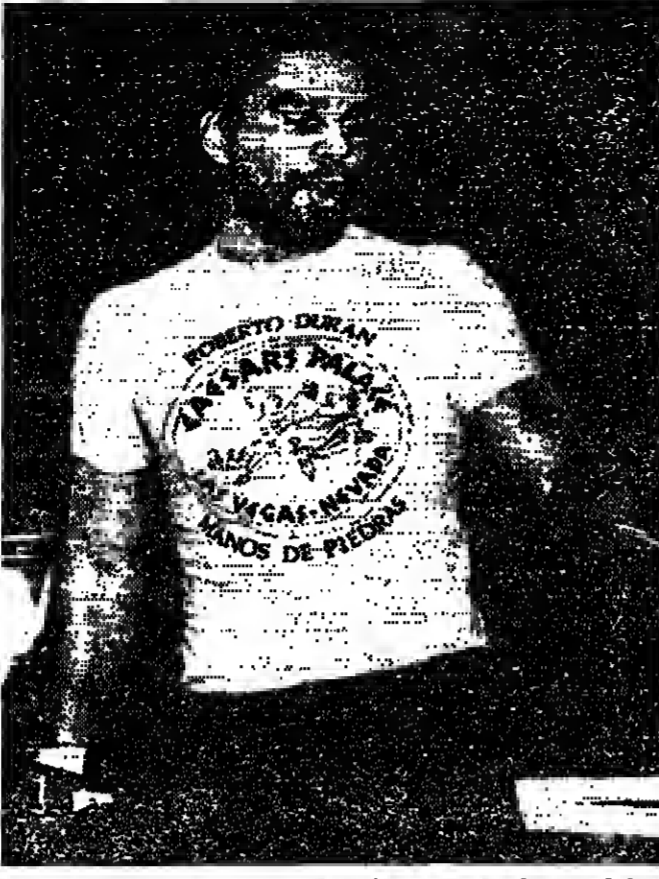
Hagler yearns to prove greatness

Las Vegas, (Reuters) Marvin Hagler regards it as overdue opportunity for a multi-million dollar payday...

In one of the most intriguing bouts in years, two of boxing's finest champions met tonight in a temporary 15,000-seat stadium at Caesars Palace hotel here.

Hagler, who is unbeaten in 32 contests over the last 7 1/2 years, is 3-1 on to successfully defend his middleweight title for the eighth time...

But the Panamanian is a ring craftsman, seeking to become the first to win titles in four different weight divisions.



Working up a storm: Duran finishes another training session before his meeting with Hagler

cars and when he came to London with 53 suitcases, including his own punchbag, a manager, two trainers, a valet, a barber, a midwife and a golf pro.

There are pathetically sad times too, particularly when Jersey Joe Walcott lost his concentration in the thirteenth round while ahead against Marciano...

But the most memorable chapter is the one on Duran. His contest with Buchanan is described with a startling freshness...

Eleven years later, after beating a retreat over his surrender to Leonard, the Panamanian drums rolled again in the aisle of the Garden and the Panamanians danced again...

HOCKEY

Potter fails to mend HA ways

By Sydney Friskin

Cambridge University.....1 Hockey Association XI.....1

Cambridge University had a lucky escape at Potter's yesterday in their annual match against the Hockey Association XI when Jon Potter, the visiting captain, failed to convert a penalty stroke two minutes before full time.

The Hockey Association XI, drawn from the England under-21 squad, had sufficient territorial advantage to have won comfortably.

After a blank first half in which each goalkeeper had to save a strong hit from a short corner, Cambridge came alive early in the second half when Potter struck and Nienow was through into the circle but was obstructed and Dods scored with a strong hit from the consequent short corner.

The Hockey Association made spirited attempts to get back on equal terms. They were eventually successful in the twenty-second minute of the half after Barr, in the Cambridge goal, scored two successive hits from a short corner.

Cambridge University, 1; Hockey Association XI, 1. Potter (Cambridge) 1 goal, 1 penalty stroke. Nienow (HA) 1 goal. Dods (HA) 1 goal. Barr (Cambridge) 2 goals. Potter (Cambridge) 1 penalty stroke.

Nemesis waiting to hurl thunderbolts at Pakistan again

From Ian Brayshaw, Perth

Pakistan go into the first Test match of their Australian tour today mindful that their Lillies, nemesis the previous time the two teams met on the same ground, could not be more menacing. After 20 months of discomfort with injury and illness, Lillies, who has taken more Test wickets than any other bowler, has stormed back to his very best in two four-day games in Perth over the past three weekends and should dispatch Lawson at the Head of the Australian attack.

His aggression, his tantalising mastery of seam and swing, his ability to work away at fast-medium pace and then sharply change up a gear in the game between Pakistan and Western Australia last weekend, gave the tourists a bleak reminder of November 14, 1981.

That was during the opening joint between the two countries on a tour shared with West Indies, when, but for stubborn resistance by Saffarz, the fast medium-pace opening bowler, the world record low score of 26 (made by New Zealand v England at Auckland in 1954-55) might have been threatened.

Lillies, in tandem with Alderman, was at his rampaging best and Pakistan, without the injured Zaheer, were under the hammer for 8-26 at one stage. That went on to total 62 was testimony to Saffarz's dedication to the cause. His 26 was the only double figure score of the innings.

Zaheer might well have been relieved to have missed that game (with cracked ribs) because the highest run maker in Pakistan Test history showed he was anything but comfortable against Lillies' pace last weekend.

Perhaps it is Zaheer's ability to make big innings which is the key to his team's chances of matching an Australian line-up that is still smarting from a three-all draw in the sub-continent 12 months ago. The Perth wicket is sure to favour Pakistan to the point where Australia may even go into the game with a four-pronged pace attack of Lillies, Lawson, Hogg and Rackemann.

Sadly, Pakistan will mount no such formidable barrage of pace. With or without Zaheer's pace, the results of last minute X-rays to his fractured left shin and even if he does play, his long period of inactivity must have ruled him out as a big threat in this game at least. With or without Zaheer's pace, it appears that Pakistan's hopes in attack throughout the series may rest with the wiles and guiles of Qadir, the leg spin bowler. His 22 wickets in the three Test matches against Australia in Pakistan a year ago exactly matched the number of wickets taken by all Australian bowlers for the whole series.

Pakistan's main hope in this game is to make lots of runs, not an impossibility if their leading batsmen are prepared to get behind the line.

No doubt Hagler will enjoy the challenge of leading Australia for the second time on home soil. The first time was back in 1979, on the same ground against Pakistan, when his team scored a surprise win.

In one way though he would like to forget that game and the only other Test match between the two countries on the Perth ground, in 1979, an enthralling conflict beset by two incidents. In the first, Australia's Hurst ran into Sander, the Pakistan's No 11, who was backing up without giving a

CRICKET

Lillies: back in form

From Ian Brayshaw, Perth

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Greenidge makes India suffer

Baroda (Reuters) - West Indies made full use of a brisk start by their batsmen, Greenidge and Haynes, to beat India by four wickets in the second one-day international match yesterday.

Requiring 215 to win, the highest run maker in Pakistan Test history showed he was anything but comfortable against Lillies' pace last weekend.

Perhaps it is Zaheer's ability to make big innings which is the key to his team's chances of matching an Australian line-up that is still smarting from a three-all draw in the sub-continent 12 months ago.

Sadly, Pakistan will mount no such formidable barrage of pace. With or without Zaheer's pace, the results of last minute X-rays to his fractured left shin and even if he does play, his long period of inactivity must have ruled him out as a big threat in this game at least.

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Financial markets section containing various tables for Authorized Units & Insurance Funds, and other financial data.

Advertisement for 'Whites' and 'Rednap position' featuring a large image of a person's face and promotional text.

ذکرا من الاصل

Why the European No 1 is back on course to follow Jacklin

The secret papers which will help Faldo to win the Open

When Nick Faldo finally settles down for a few weeks' rest in his Hertfordshire country home...

few weeks he was back home in Ayr St Lawrence agonising over his poor performances.

"I made a few changes, but even when I returned to the States I knew I was cheating myself," he confesses.

Faldo has treasured those sheets of paper since 1978. They were given to him by Gerald Micklem...

Faldo realised he needed to take a break and work on the swing. Mark O'Meara, a member of the US tour...

When Faldo first received them they were interesting. But winning the Open then was only a dream.

Returning to Europe with his restyled swing still in the rudimentary stage...

Faldo actually had a chance of winning the Open at Royal Birkdale last July...

That last victory means that Faldo will be seen less on the European tour in 1984.

What surprised Faldo most was winning the French Open immediately after his return from America.

In the end, Dean Beaman, the US PGA tour commissioner, took a lenient view.



Faldo: has a glorious dream

Open. The time has probably arrived, anyway, when I should concentrate on America.

In spite of his individual success Faldo regards the Ryder Cup as the high spot of the year.

You could see the pleasure of that week etched in Faldo's face as we breakfasted in a Madrid hotel prior to the start of the Johnnie Walker Trophy.

Mitchell Platts

GOLF: NORMAN ONE WIN AWAY FROM HIS AUTUMN TARGET

No clubs, bags of confidence

From Mitchell Platts, Madrid

I'm tired by the time that my clubs could be in anyone of half a dozen European cities," he said.

Norman will play two tournaments in Japan and one in New Zealand before taking a six-week rest prior to starting his 1984 campaign.

To reach his goal this week Norman must overcome an impressive 12-man field which includes Severiano Ballesteros, Nick Faldo, Sandy Lyle, Sam Torrance and Bernhard Langer.

Norman has never been recognised as a great putter but that view must now be revised. After winning the Canoes tournament in France and the Suntory World Matchplay Championship, he returned to his native Australia.

don't think of missing." His stroke did not let him down in last week's Kapulu tournament in Hawaii which he also won.

Norman will play two tournaments in Japan and one in New Zealand before taking a six-week rest prior to starting his 1984 campaign.

Flora Goddard, aged 75, boled in the final of the Wincanton Ladies Open at Shaftesbury, Dorset.



Norman: Spanish challenge

RACING: CLASH OF THE DAY AT STRATFORD

Fast ground in Lettoch's favour

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

Michael Dickinson casts his net far and wide today and launches raids on both Wincanton and Stratford from his base near Wetherby in Yorkshire.

The Badger Beer Handicap Steeplechase and the Silver Buck Handicap Steeplechase respectively.

The Oslo Trophy is Lettoch's objective at Stratford where his clash with Forgive 'N Forget is the race of the day.

Doubles for de Haan and Scudamore

By Michael Phillips

Peter Scudamore and Ben de Haan were in commanding form at Newbury yesterday, each winning two races for his retaining stable.

By winning both divisions of the Woodpecker Novices Hurdle, Fred Winter on Gratification and Don Giovanni, de Haan took his winning total in the last fortnight to seven.

John Francombe, out of action since being kicked at Huntington on October 22, is on the way back.

Felinstowe Lad took his tally this season to three out of three when winning the Stillington Handicap at Stratford yesterday.

shaw's long journey south should be doubly rewarded by W Six Times and Ashley House.

The Silver Buck Steeplechase should be a fine spectacle as both Ashley House and Keenagaddy are free-running jumpers.

Wayward Lad at Wetherby behind him, Ashley House should see off Keenagaddy who has performed indifferently since winning over today's course and distance in September.

King Spruce returns. King Spruce, Bob Bob Champion's Grand National hope, will have his first run at the season in the SGB Chase at Ascot next month.

Up and away... Voice of Progress soars over the water jump on his way to victory in the Halloween Chase at Newbury



Up and away... Voice of Progress soars over the water jump on his way to victory in the Halloween Chase at Newbury

Wincanton

1.0 NOVICE HURDLE (Div I; £800; 2m) (10 runners)

Table listing horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 1.0 Novice Hurdle race.

1.30 MENDIP HILLS CHASE (Novices; £1,670; 2m) (7)

Table listing horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 1.30 Mendip Hills Chase race.

2.0 'BADGER BEER' CHASE (Handicap; £3,482; 2m 5f) (8)

Table listing horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 2.0 Badger Beer Chase race.

2.30 REMEMBRANCE POPPY HURDLE (Handicap; £1,701; 2m) (10)

Table listing horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 2.30 Remembrance Poppy Hurdle race.

3.0 SILVER BUCK CHASE (Handicap; £2,485; 3m 1f) (4)

Table listing horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 3.0 Silver Buck Chase race.

3.30 NOVICE HURDLE (Div II; £800; 2m) (10)

Table listing horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 3.30 Novice Hurdle race.

Stratford-upon-Avon

1.15 SOUTHERN CROSS HURDLE (Div I; novices; £990; 2m) (17 runners)

Table listing horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 1.15 Southern Cross Hurdle race.

1.45 OSLO CHASE (Novices; £2,031; 2m 6f) (16)

Table listing horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 1.45 Oslo Chase race.

2.15 WARRINARBOOL CHASE (Handicap; £1,679; 2m) (10)

Table listing horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 2.15 Warrinarbool Chase race.

2.45 HAWKES BAY CHASE (Handicap; £1,690; 3m 2f) (9)

Table listing horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 2.45 Hawkes Bay Chase race.

3.15 ARCHIE SCOTT HURDLE (Handicap; £2,905; 2m 6f) (17)

Table listing horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 3.15 Archie Scott Hurdle race.

3.45 SOUTHERN CROSS HURDLE (Div II; novices; £890; 2m) (17)

Table listing horse names, jockeys, and odds for the 3.45 Southern Cross Hurdle race.

Stratford selections

By Michael Phillips. 1.15 Artist's Design. 1.45 Lettoch. 2.15 Young Dusky. 2.45 Lollipopman. 3.15 Arnie. 3.45 Latour.

Wincanton Selections

By Michael Phillips. 1.0 Cilrena Jet. 1.30 Spanish Gold. 2.0 W Six Times. 2.30 Bold Decapion. 3.0 Ashley House. 3.30 Plaza Tor.

Newbury results

Table of race results from Newbury, including race numbers, names, and winners.

Sedgefield results

Table of race results from Sedgefield, including race numbers, names, and winners.

RUGBY UNION

All Blacks draft in six newcomers for Scots

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

New Zealand will field six new caps in the team which will play Scotland at Murrayfield on Saturday.

All told there are eight changes from the New Zealand team that beat Australia on August 20 in Sydney.

The Rugby Union has dropped their plan to drug test the England squad at next week's international against New Zealand.

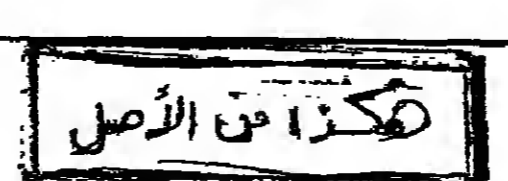
England drug test off. The Rugby Union has dropped their plan to drug test the England squad at next week's international against New Zealand.

ably sustained performance about the field, never failing to knock down the big All Blacks forwards before they could develop any momentum.

To his two giant efforts, Hare added a second penalty and a conversion of Holdstock's try, the other Midlands try coming from Robbins, the Coventry number 8.

Greenwood has been encouraged by the thought and effort applied to the three divisional games against the touring side so far.

Advertisement for PPA Dividends, Littlewoods, and Vernons. Includes text like 'CERTIFIED PPA DIVIDENDS' and 'Winners everywhere in this week's Super share-out of £504,000'.



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Commercial property/Christopher Warman

High rise rates

The announcement of a high standards demanded by occupiers in the market today", they claim.

General figures indicate that the take up of office floor space in 1978 was almost double that of 1982, while 1983 shows signs of a partial recovery. It has particularly noted that there has been a distinct rise in demand since the general election, which suggests renewed confidence in the British economy and increased activity in the City. Office supply stands at its highest level since July 1977, giving more flexibility for the new and expanding businesses considering office space in the City.

It is interesting that there is a definite trend in the size of buildings towards larger units. Of all present and projected developments, 72 per cent are more than 20,000 square feet and 16.2 per cent between 10,000 and 20,000 square feet. Savills say that the latter will almost certainly be aimed at single lettings, while the former will tend to be multi-tenanted.

Another facet of the take-up is to establish who is moving into the area, and in view of the price asked for the new Cornhill banking headquarters it is perhaps not surprising that banking emerges as the leading growth area in terms of total space occupied. British and foreign banks have taken more than 50 per cent of the new floor space and almost doubled their take-up over 1982.

But while British banks appear to be more willing to move away from the central area, foreign banks - other than the large American banks - are more concerned with the prestige of a central address and are prepared to pay the higher rents required.

Savills' main conclusion from this detailed and comprehensive survey is that the City continues to attract the financial community as a world trading centre, but that there is now a greater demand for economical, highly efficient, flexible office space than has been evident for some five years.

Certainly the bordering boroughs, with the exception of Westminster, are proving unacceptable because of excessive and uncertain rate increases.

The survey detects renewed interest in traditional buildings that can incorporate larger floors and accommodate communications technology as occupiers move away from the image of glass clad boxes. Savills' prediction for 1984: "Demand and consequently rents will fall for the fringe 1960s buildings and many tenants may find themselves locked in."

Conversely, rents and demand will rise for the best buildings particularly those located in the inner core. An obvious, but inevitable conclusion.

La crème de la crème

GOLDEN OPPORTUNITIES

Today, at day until 7.30 this evening, you can find out about a wide range of immediate opportunities, in the following fields:

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SECRETARY/PA - WATERLOO

If you have good accurate shorthand and the confidence to work at senior level we have a P.A. job for you. You will handle correspondence and administration and arrange social functions for the senior partner. The office is in a modern office close to Waterloo. Salary c.£8,500 plus 6% 1611

Senior Secretaries
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SECRETARY/PA's FRAGRANCES/HAMMERSMITH

I.F.F. Great Britain Ltd, leading Creators & Manufacturers of Fragrance products for the cosmetics & toiletries industries is shortly moving its sales & marketing office to Trafalgar House, Hammersmith.

At this office, there will be a small sales/technical team & 2 of our Account Managers will require Secretaries. Previous secretarial experience with good typing & shorthand speeds is necessary. We place great emphasis on maintaining close contacts with our customers, so a good telephone manner is essential. Successful applicants will be required to act on their own initiative, since the Account Managers frequently work outside the office.

Opportunities for career advancement within the perfume industry could be available for suitable candidates.

The salary will be very competitive & we offer generous annual bonus together with a non-contributory pension & free life assurance.

Please apply in writing with brief details of current salary & career to date to Mr B K Johnson, Personnel Director, I.F.F. Great Britain Ltd, Crown Road, Southbury Road, Enfield, Middlesex.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

SECRETARY/P.A.

If you are an experienced secretary with excellent shorthand and typing skills, this could be the job for you. Working for the Editor-in-Chief of this prestigious magazine, you must be literate and fairly numerate, have plenty of initiative and be able to communicate with people at all levels.

In return we offer an excellent salary, luncheon vouchers, discount on Thomson holidays and books, and other benefits associated with a large company.

Please apply in writing with a C.V. to:-

Mrs Susan Howard,
Personnel Department,
International Thomson Publishing Ltd.,
Elm House,
10-16 Elm Street,
LONDON, WC1X 0BP.

BIS Applied Systems International Computing Consultancy

Personal Assistant to Managing Director

This is a challenging opportunity for a competent and well organised Executive Secretary to join a progressive and rapidly expanding company. The successful applicant will be required to cope with a wide variety of work and will need to make use of the latest office automation technology which has recently been installed.

The person appointed will be responsible for confidential reports and correspondence, collating budget information detailed preparation for meetings, dealing with clients and making travel arrangements and appointments.

This role requires first class Secretarial and Administrative skills (including experience of Audio and Wordprocessing), a confident telephone manner, the ability to communicate at all levels and a sense of humour.

It is unlikely that individuals under 25 years of age will be considered as a high degree of initiative and self-motivation will be expected to relieve the M.D. the day-to-day decisions and problems of running a busy office.

A salary in the range of £8-£8K will be offered depending on experience, together with excellent company benefits, a very friendly and pleasant working environment with a highly professional company close to Waterloo Station.

Please write in confidence enclosing full C.V. to: Jane Comber, Senior Personnel Officer

BIS Applied Systems Ltd.
York House, 199 Westminster Bridge Road,
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SECRETARY/PA

to American Lawyer
Hours 10am. to 6pm.

An efficient secretary with word processing experience is required by an American Law firm in London E.C.2. Good education and skills, both social and professional, are required for this position of growing responsibility, but previous legal experience is not necessary.

There is a certain amount of committee work involved plus some paid overtime. Non-smokers only, please.

Please write to:-
MAUREEN CARROLL
58, Coleman Street, London, EC2R 5BE.

INTERIOR DESIGN STUDIO IN ISLINGTON

requires experienced PA/Sec (S/H) to organise Director and staff. Salary neg.

Write with CV for appointment to:
Peter Glynn Smith,
32 Duncan Terrace, London, N1 8BS.

OVERSEAS OPPORTUNITY
Ramada Hotel Dubai, U.A.E. requires
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
for the General Manager
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Minimum age: 22 years.
Languages: English and German. French an asset.
The position has a wide scope and requires an outgoing personality. Many such careers with public agencies should have local experience and often requiring experience in an hotel. The person must have a high degree of confidence. Applicants to be of firm appearance, creative and self-motivated, with professional skills, flexible on working hours.

Please apply with C.V. to all applications and photographs to:
General Manager, Ramada Hotel Dubai, P.O. Box 7979, U.A.E.

SPANISH CO.

Seek competent person 22-40 years good Sp. skills, 5/11 hour German and Spanish. Good personality able to take pressure in busy office. Experience in sales/selling useful driving license essential. This is a very interesting position within a construction Co. situated in Derna, Spain. The right applicant will be directly responsible to English/German agents. Initial interview U.K.

Write sending C.V. and photograph to Mr Taylor (P) Ltd, 34 Ship Street, Brighton, Sussex.

STUDIO CO-ORDINATOR £9,000 neg

Graphic design group require responsible, articulate, energetic person with organisational skills in the following fields:

Journal Studies Director and team leading books, ensuring materials, attending project meetings and client presentations - in short complete responsibility of studio - not just a few aspects of the session. A print production background under an experienced and senior graphic environment is desirable as is a knowledge of German or French.

DESIGN P.A. c.£7,500

Perfect P.A. aged between 25 - 35 needed by extremely busy Director of design studio. Excellent salary and benefits. Must be able to handle correspondence and administration. High pressure position, as is experience of Director level in a creative environment. The successful applicant will have good telephone manner and will be self-motivated.

AUDIO SECRETARY c.£7,500 + etc. co. benefits

Level 21 - 23 year old with good telephone manner, efficient shorthand and excellent typing skills. To work for a young executive of an international business. Secretarial Consultant based in beautiful office. Pleasant atmosphere and opportunity to become a member of a company of professionals. 2nd or 3rd floor with a lift preferred.

Handle Recruitment
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Switched onto Sales?
(and to £8,000-£8,500)

We are currently handling two Senior Secretarial Appointments - both exciting new positions - with a Sales/Marketing bias. Both need someone in their mid 20's with first class Sp/Sec skills, an excellent educational background, and the proved initiative to work with being a "First person." One is with a major Co. in the field of new Technology, and involves helping to get a new venture off the ground. Challenging and exciting in a good organizer. The other will involve a great deal of contact with the Senior Executives of some of our largest companies, and the organisation of and attendance at Conferences and Seminars and is located in WC1. An outgoing P.A. oriented person with loads of initiative, please!

SENIOR SECRETARY
(£8,500 + Exc. Benefits)

Senior Director of an International City firm wishes to recruit a Secretary/PA aged 27+, with good organisational and administrative abilities. (Sp/Sec hand/typing - constant approx. 20%). This is an interesting and demanding position which involves overseas contact, liaising at Executive level and attending to all his personal work.

Please telephone Lorenza Costello
01-491 7668
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PA TO STORE DIRECTOR

An expanding prestigious West End Store require a secretary with good shorthand and typing skills.

Opportunity to use initiative must be able to liaise at bank and run office in busy atmosphere.

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BANKING ON YOUR LANGUAGES!
To £8,000 +

A major American Bank with brand new offices in Covent Garden seeks a Secretary with fluency in French, German or Spanish. Has good banking experience, can handle a heavy workload and has 100/60 speeds in English. The position will also be well-spoken, very smart and aged in the mid 20's. In addition to salary the top "Banking Benefits" will be given.

International Secretaries
Recruitment Consultants
01-491 7100

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£8,500 FULHAM

MDs of fast-growing import company desperately need the help of experienced shorthand secretary All PA duties. French and Italian useful. Excellent prospects.

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Top two floors of superb air conditioned offices. To be let as a whole or in part up to 18,310 square feet. Available early 1984.

British Rail Property Board has appointed W. E. Chivers of Devises as its partner to develop an office block of 194,000 square feet with car parking for 400 vehicles on its three acre car park adjoining Swindon Station. The building has been designed to meet the needs of companies decentralizing their headquarters. When completed, the offices will comprise six integrated blocks of six and eight floors built around two courtyards and will have an investment value of £30m. Swindon has already attracted W. H. Smith and Son, Hambro Life, Nationwide Building Society and Noble Lowndes Group, and other companies, including Readers Digest, are in negotiation to move to the town.

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HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS
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PERSONAL COLUMNS
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SKI BLADON LINES

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ANTIQUE AND COLLECTABLES
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MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)

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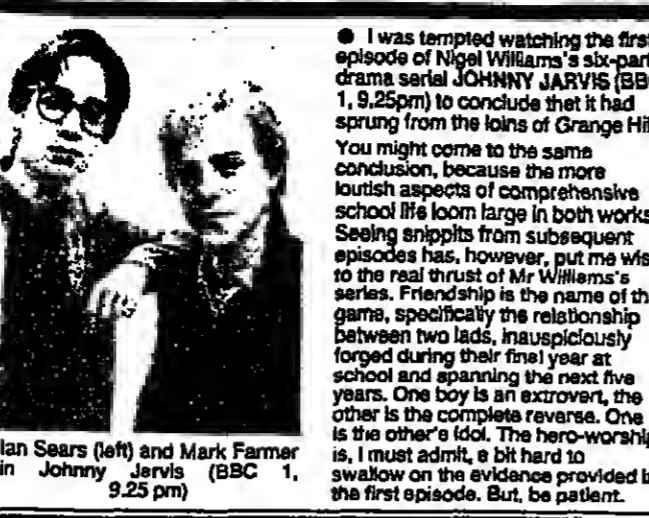
ENTERTAINMENTS

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DISCOUNTS
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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davalle

- BBC 1
6.00 Cereals: News and information service, skilfully edited but without pictures.
6.30 Breakfast Time: With Frank Bough and Fern Britton. Today's special items include...



Ian Sears (left) and Mark Farmer in Johnny Jarvis (BBC 1, 9.25 pm)

CHOICE
The relationship soon achieves conviction because it is based on the envy of an adult world...

- BBC 2
9.15 Daytime on Two: Until 3.00. Today's line-up of television programmes: 1.5 Dicho y hecho (Spanish lesson)...

- CHANNEL 4
5.00 Countdowns Words and numbers game. Presenter: Richard Whiteley. Standing by with the dictionary: Gyles Brandstetter.
5.30 Benny Wetherman's Piano: Benny Wetherman's piano 10-part series...

- Radio 4
5.00 News Briefing. 6.00 Farming Today. 6.25 Shipping Forecast.
6.30 Today: Including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News Summary, 6.45 Prayer for the Day, 6.55, 7.55 Weather...

- Radio 2
News on the hour (except 8.00pm and 8.00) Major bulletins 7.00pm, 8.00pm, 1.00pm, 5.00pm and 12.00pm.
12.30 (BBC) 5.00pm Play: Movers. 7.30 Terry O'Quinn. 1.00pm Cinema: Young 12.00 Music: Why You Work. 12.30 Gloria Hunniford. 1.20 Sports Desk. 2.30 Ed Sheeran. 3.00 Sports Desk. 4.00 David Tennant. 4.02, 5.30 Sports Desk. 6.00 John Turner...

- Radio 3
11.00 The Living World. 10.00 News. 10.30 Morning Show: 'The Gambler' by Harry Towb. Read by the author.
10.45 Daily Service. 11.00 News; Travel; That Reminds Me. Swedish soprano Elisabeth Soderstrom reflects on some of her favourite roles...

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 105.3kHz/285m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/147m; VHF 90-92; R4: World 200kHz/1500m; VHF 92-95; BBC 1152kHz/281m; VHF 97-3; Capital: 1548kHz/194m; VHF 97.3; BBC Radio 1548kHz/209m; VHF 94.9; Radio 5: 105.3kHz/285m

Entertainments
THEATRES
DURRY LANE Theatre Royal CC 01-638 8100. Royal Shakespeare Company.
HAYMARKET THEATRE Royal CC 01-330 8123.
LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS
THE MONSTER MUSICAL COMEDY
LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS
THE MONSTER MUSICAL COMEDY

New look at use of pill for children

By Nicholas Timmins
The Government is to review its advice to doctors that the pill and other contraceptives may be prescribed to girls aged under 16 without their parents' knowledge.



Mrs Victoria Gillick: Legal battle



Musical pairs: Four of the sixty young musicians from seven south London schools who practised with members of the London Symphony Orchestra's brass and woodwind sections in Bermondsey yesterday.



Musical pairs: Four of the sixty young musicians from seven south London schools who practised with members of the London Symphony Orchestra's brass and woodwind sections in Bermondsey yesterday.

Britain to stand firm on EEC contribution

From Ian Murray, Athens
Britain went into tough negotiations on reform of the EEC in Athens last night determined to reject any new ideas for calculating its contributions to the Community budget.

US patrol pinpoints Syrian guns

Continued from page 1
Marines, because they could see the flame at the tail of the rockets as they travelled from Dhour Abadiyah across the Aley hills and exploded round the airport.

Two-day deadline to stop blacking

Continued from page 1
acting in furtherance of a trade dispute with its members' employer, British Telecom, because it feared that many jobs would be lost if Mercury was allowed to take advantage of the state telecommunications system and 'cream off' profitable business traffic.

Frank Johnson in the Commons The self-financed Thatcher Gummer

A Labour MP yesterday demanded an inquiry into who financed Mr John Selwyn Gummer, the controversial leader of the extreme right-wing British Union of Thatchists.

Today's events

- Royal engagements: Princess Anne, attends the Army Benevolent Fund Dinner at the Royal Artillery Mess at Woolwich, 7.30.

New books - paperback

- The Utrary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week: Beyond Gibraltar, autobiography 1922-1933, by Fynes Stark (Century Travellers, £4.95).

The papers

The Washington Post thinks that 'all things considered, President Reagan made the right decision when he ordered US forces to land on Grenada'.

Weather

A southeasterly airstream covers the British Isles. Many places will be dry with bright or sunny periods.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,283

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down.

Music

Concert by the Gemini Brass Ensemble, South Bromsgrove Hall School, Birmingham, 7.30.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Debates on Liberal SDP motions on employment opportunities for young people and on personal social services.

Music competition

The fourth successive series of annual events organized by the Chamber Music Competition for Schools Trust will take place in February to May 1984.

The pound

Table showing exchange rates for Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and USA.

Anniversaries

Births: Martin Luther, Elsteben, Germany, 1517; Farouq, physicist, and alchemist, Einstdeln, Switzerland, 1493; Robert Devereux, 2nd Earl of Essex, favourite of Queen Elizabeth I, beheaded 1601, Netherlands, Herefordshire, 1566; Francis Comper, William Hogarth, London, 1697; Sir Jacob Epstein, New York, 1880; and Marvell, 1891. H. M. Stanley met David Livingstone at Ujiji, Tanganyika, 1871.

Freedom of road

Most motorists in France will be free of charge from 5 am today until 5 am tomorrow because attendants are on strike.

Around Britain

Table showing weather forecasts for various regions across Britain, including temperature and weather conditions.

Abroad

Table showing weather forecasts for various international locations.

Vertical text on the right edge, possibly from an adjacent page or advertisement.